

LONDON WHALE CHARGES FILED

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Associated Press

NEW YORK (AP) — Two former JPMorgan Chase & Co. traders falsified bank records to try to cover up trading losses that were spiraling out of control, prosecutors said Wednesday in a criminal case that raises fresh questions about whether Wall Street learned its lessons from the 2008 financial crisis.



A JP Morgan Chase banking hub in New York. Two former JPMorgan Chase traders were charged in the 'London Whale' financial scandal Wednesday, August 14, 2013. (AP Photo)

Javier Martin-Artajo, 49, and Julien Grout, 35, and their co-conspirators were accused of marking up the market value of an investment portfolio to hide the fact that it was plummeting in value. The portfolio eventually sank into an eye-popping \$6 billion loss attributed to Bruno Iksil, a trader who became known as the "London Whale" for his location and the super-sized bets he made. Preet Bharara, the Manhattan U.S. attorney, hinted that the misconduct was not just the work of a couple of rogue traders, but was systemic in a bank that failed to keep adequate watch over its traders. He said companies need to pay closer attention to the cultures they create.

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THE EMERGENCY



A supporter of ousted Islamist President Mohammed Morsi shouts during clashes with Egyptian security forces in Cairo's Nasr City district, Egypt, Wednesday, Aug. 14, 2013.

(AP Photo/Manu Brabo)

Egyptian Police Kill Hundreds In Crackdown

David D. Kirkpatrick
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CAIRO - Security forces killed more than 200 protesters and wounded hundreds of others Wednesday in a daylong assault on two sit-ins by Islamist supporters of the ousted president, Mohammed Morsi, that set off waves of violence in the capital, Cairo, and across the country. By afternoon, the interim government appointed by Gen. Abdel-Fattah el-Sissi had declared a one-month state of emer-

gency across the country, suspending the right to a trial or due process. The declaration returned Egypt to the state of virtual martial law that prevailed for three decades under former President Hosni Mubarak before he was forced to step down in 2011. Mohamed ElBaradei, the interim vice president and a Nobel Prize-winning former diplomat who had lent his reputation to convincing the West of the military-appointed government's

democratic intentions, resigned in protest, a spokeswoman said. By evening, the Egyptian Health Ministry said 235 civilians had been killed in violence across the country, and the Interior Ministry said 43 police officers had been killed. The number of injured was put at 900. But the large number of dead and critically injured Egyptians whom reporters for The New York Times saw moving through various makeshift field hospitals in

Cairo indicated that the final death toll would climb much higher. At least one protester was burned alive in his tent. Many others were shot in the head and chest. Some of the dead appeared to be in their early teens, and young women assisting in a field hospital had stains on the hems of their abayas from the pools of blood covering the floor.

Continued on page 2

Doctors Without Borders to pull out of Somalia

NICHOLAS KULISH

© 2013 New York Times

NAIROBI, Kenya - One of the world's most tenacious humanitarian groups said Wednesday that it could no longer endure the risks that come with operating in Somalia, in a move that underscored the continued violence in the country despite recent steps toward stability.

After suffering years of attacks on its staff members in Somalia, the international medical charity Doctors Without Borders said that it would shut down all operations in the country after 22 years of working there.

"The closure of our activities is a direct result of extreme attacks on our staff," said the group's international president, Unni Karunakara, "in an environment where armed groups and civilian leaders increasingly support, tolerate or condone the killing, assaulting, and abducting of humanitarian aid workers."

The move will strip many civilians of access to health care. Last year in Somalia, the group provided outpatient treatment to 624,000 people, admitted an additional 41,100 to hospitals and performed 2,750 surgeries. An employee at the Daynile hospital in the capital, Mogadishu, said the group's pullout would be "disastrous," though he added that Doctors Without Borders had pledged to continue supporting the facility for three months.

The news of the pullout adds to the growing number of setbacks that have undercut the Somali government's narrative of a country on the upswing. A recent series of devastating attacks by the Shabab militant group, including a deadly assault on a United Nations compound, had already put those widely touted security gains into question.

The group had endured dozens of attacks on staff members, vehicles and facilities over the years. □

Egyptian Police Kill Hundreds In Crackdown

Continued from Front

The government imposed a 7 p.m. curfew across much of the country. Clashes and gunfire broke out even in well-heeled precincts of Cairo far from the sit-ins, and by the afternoon streets across the capital were deserted. Outside Cairo, mobs of Islamists angry about the crackdown attacked a police station in the Giza governorate, burned down at least two churches in rural southern Egypt, and raged through the streets of Alexandria and other cities.

protests of liberal members of the interim Cabinet, Western threats of a cutoff of aid or loans, and the risk of a prolonged backlash of violence by Islamists angry about the theft of their democratic victories.

It was a level of violence that might have crushed the January 2011 uprising that ousted Mubarak if military and police forces had unleashed it at that time, although back then the security forces faced a broader spectrum of protesters before the struggles over the political transition divided the Islamists and their opponents.

phase of a police state under military control behind a civilian facade - this is what they are trying to do." As for the U.S. threats to cut off aid or block international loans, Shahin said no Egyptians - generals, liberals, Islamists or scholars - ever took them seriously. "In the end, the West will back the winning side," he said. "That is how dictators think, and to a certain extent it is true."

A spokesman for President Barack Obama said the United States was continuing to review the \$1.5 billion in aid it gives Egypt, most of it in the form of military

get back on track."

The Islamists vowed to continue their fight. Speaking to journalists after the death of his daughter, el-Beltagy, the Islamist parliamentarian, declared, "The police state has come to an end," and asserted that Egyptians across the country would rise up to defend democracy. The dead gave their lives "for the cause of God, for Egyptians to lead lives of dignity and honor."

Egyptian state television sought to downplay the police violence, beginning the day with reports that the camps were be-



A police vehicle is pushed off of the 6th of October bridge by protesters close to the largest sit-in by supporters of ousted Islamist President Mohammed Morsi in the eastern Nasr City district of Cairo, Egypt, Wednesday, Aug. 14, 2013.

(AP Photo/Aly Hazzaa)

After a six-week standoff with the demonstrators, the scale and brutality of the attack - with armored vehicles, bulldozers, tear gas, snipers, live ammunition and birdshot - appeared to extinguish any hope of a political reconciliation that might persuade Morsi's Islamist supporters to participate in a renewed democratic process under the auspices of the military-appointed government. Instead, the crackdown was the clearest sign yet that the old Egyptian police state was re-emerging in full force, defying the

Tens of thousands of Morsi supporters had moved into the protest camps, many with their families. The fatalities in the attack included the 17-year-old daughter of a prominent Islamist lawmaker in the dissolved Parliament, Mohamed el-Beltagy.

"This is the beginning of a systematic crackdown on the Muslim Brotherhood, other Islamists and other opponents of a military coup," said Emad Shahin, a professor of political science at the American University in Cairo. "It is an attempt to begin a new

equipment. The spokesman, Josh Earnest, said the violence "runs directly counter to pledges from the interim government to pursue reconciliation" with the Islamists.

He said the United States condemned the renewal of the state of emergency and urged respect for basic rights like the freedom of assembly and peaceful demonstrations. But he stopped short of writing off the interim government and said the United States would continue to remind the government of its promises and urge it "to

ing cleared "in a highly civilized way." Later, state television broadcast footage of what appeared to be an Islamist wielding an assault rifle.

After an emergency meeting in the midday, the interim government issued a statement praising the security forces for their courage and restraint while blaming the Islamists for any loss of life.

"The government holds these leaders fully responsible for any spilled blood, and for all the rioting and violence going on," the statement said. □

Manning takes stand, apologizes for hurting America

DAVID DISHNEAU

PAULINE JELINEK

Associated Press

FORT MEADE, Maryland

(AP) — U.S. soldier Bradley Manning took the stand Wednesday at his sentencing hearing in the WikiLeaks case and apologized for hurting his country, pleading with a military judge for a chance to go to college and become a productive citizen.

He addressed the court after a day of testimony about his troubled childhood in Oklahoma and the extreme psychological pressure that experts said he felt in the "hyper-masculine" military because of his gender-identity disorder — his feeling that he was a woman trapped in a man's body. One psychiatrist said Manning has symptoms of fetal alcohol syndrome and Asperger syndrome, which is an autism spectrum disorder.

"I am sorry that my actions hurt people. I'm sorry that they hurt the United States," Manning said.

The soldier said that he understood what he was doing but that he did not believe at the time that leaking a mountain of classified information to the anti-secrecy website would cause harm to the U.S.

Manning, 25, could be sentenced to 90 years in prison for the leaks, which occurred while he was working as an Army intelligence analyst in Iraq in 2010. The judge will impose the sentence, though exactly when is unclear. The next session, for any prosecution rebuttal testimony, is set for Friday.

The release of diplomatic cables, warzone logs and videos was the largest leak of documents in U.S. history. It included a video of a 2007 U.S. helicopter attack that killed civilians in Iraq, including a Reuters news photographer and his driver.

Though he often showed little reaction to court proceedings during most of the two and a half month court-martial, Manning appeared to struggle to contain his emotions several

times Wednesday during testimony from his sister, an aunt and two mental health counselors, one who treated him and another who diagnosed him with several problems.

Speaking quickly but deliberately, Manning took only a few minutes to make his statement Wednesday. He appeared to be reading it from papers he was holding and looked up a number of times to make eye contact with the judge. It was an unsworn statement, meaning he could not be cross-examined by prosecutors.

He said he realizes now that he should have worked more aggressively to find a legal means to draw attention to his concerns about the way the war was being waged. He said he wants to get a college degree, and he asked for a chance to become a more productive member of society.

His conciliatory tone was at odds with the statement he gave in court in February, when he condemned the actions of U.S. soldiers overseas and what he

called the military's "blood-lust." Defense attorney David Coombs told Manning supporters that Manning's heart was in the right place. "His one goal was to make this world a better place," Coombs said.

Manning's apology could carry substantial weight with the military judge, said

Eugene Fidell, who teaches military justice at Yale.

"He faces extraordinarily long confinement and if he is coming across subjectively as contrite, I think that may do him some real good with the sentencing," Fidell said.

Manning's attorneys contend he showed clear signs

of deteriorating mental health that should have prevented commanders from sending him to a war zone to handle classified information. □

Manning eventually came out to Capt. Michael Worsley, emailing the therapist a photo of himself in a long, blond wig and lipstick. □



Army Pfc. Bradley Manning is escorted out of a courthouse in Fort Meade, Md. Manning took the stand Wednesday at his sentencing hearing in the WikiLeaks case and apologized for hurting the United States.

(AP Photo/Patrick Semansky)

UPS cargo plane crashes in Alabama

TIMOTHY WILLIAMS

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A United Parcel Service

pilot, authorities said.

The accident occurred about 6 a.m., as UPS Flight



In a handout photo, investigators survey a damaged engine among wreckage from a United Parcel Service Airbus A300 cargo plane that crashed in Birmingham, Ala., Aug. 14, 2013. The plane crashed during its landing approach at Birmingham-Shuttlesworth International Airport, killing the two crew members.

(NTSB via The New York Times)

cargo plane crashed during its landing approach at the Birmingham, Ala., airport Wednesday morning, killing the pilot and the co-

pilot, authorities said. The accident occurred about 6 a.m., as UPS Flight

miles northeast of downtown Birmingham, said Kathleen Bergen, a spokeswoman for the Federal Aviation Administration.

The plane, an Airbus A300, a twin-engine aircraft that is commonly used by air cargo companies for medium-range flights, went down in a field about half a mile from a north runway at the airport, officials said. Upon impact, the plane split in two and fire engulfed the tail section. Firefighters spent about an hour and a half extinguishing the blaze, said C.W. Mardis, a battalion chief and fire marshal for the Birmingham Fire and Rescue Service.

Mardis said there had been at least two explosions after the crash and a trail of plane parts and packages that extended over a wide area. No one

on the ground was injured, he said.

Officials from the National Transportation Safety Board were expected to arrive late Wednesday to try to determine a cause for the accident, the agency said.

Mitch Nichols, president of UPS, said in a statement released Wednesday, "this incident is very unfortunate, and our thoughts and prayers are with those involved."

The plane, equipped with Pratt & Whitney engines, had accumulated approximately 11,000 flight hours over about 6,800 flights since its delivery to UPS in 2003, according to Airbus. The company said a team of specialists had been dispatched from France, where the company has its headquarters, to Alabama to aid in the investigation.

US teen: Kidnapper deserved to die

ELLIOT SPAGAT
Associated Press

SAN DIEGO (AP) — The 16-year-old U.S. girl who was kidnapped by a family friend suspected of murdering her mother and young brother said the man threatened to kill her if she tried to escape — and that he got what he deserved when he died in a shootout.

Hannah Anderson went online barely 48 hours after her rescue and fielded hundreds of questions through a social media site. That account was disabled Wednesday.

Also Wednesday, a family spokesman said the kid-

Sheriff's Department, said authorities were aware of the online comments but couldn't confirm the account is Hannah's.

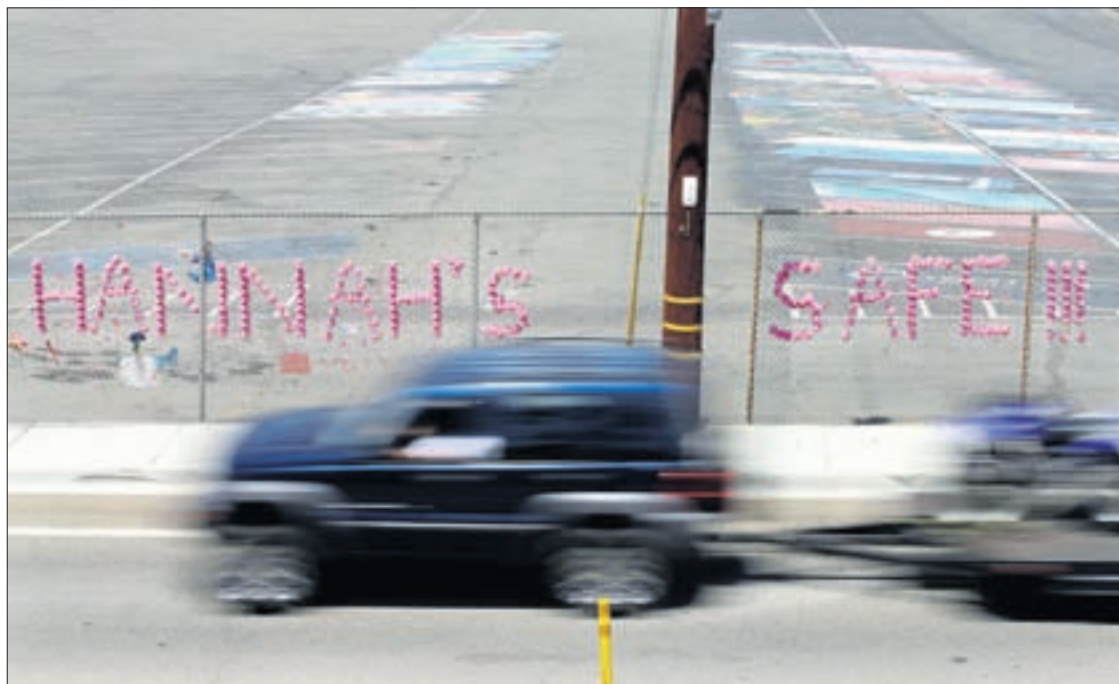
The postings appear on the ask.fm social-networking site account for "Hannahbanana722" of Lakeside, the community where the teen lived. At one point during the lengthy series of posts, a questioner asked Hannah to post a photo, and she complied.

Dawn MacNabb, whose son, Alan, is one of Hannah's closest friends, confirmed the postings were by the teen. Alan spoke on the phone with Hannah on Tuesday and urged her to

brother in his garage. Their bodies were found after a fire destroyed the home. She said she didn't know they had died until an FBI agent told her after her rescue Saturday.

"I wish I could go back in time and risk my life to try and save theirs. I will never forgive myself for not trying harder to save them," she wrote.

Anderson said she "basically" stayed awake for six straight days, and DiMaggio ignored her requests for food. She couldn't try to escape because DiMaggio had a gun and "threatened to kill me and anyone who tried to help."



A vehicle passes a fence with the words, "Hannah's safe," made from pink-painted cups alongside El Capitan High School, where kidnapping victim Hannah Anderson has attended, Wednesday, Aug. 14, 2013, in Lakeside, Calif. The 16-year-old girl who was kidnapped by a family friend suspected of murdering her mother and young brother said the man threatened to kill her if she tried to escape — and that he got what he deserved when he died in a shootout.

(AP Photo/Gregory Bull)

napper, 40-year-old James Lee DiMaggio, had multiple bullet wounds in his chest and one in the side of the head. Andrew Spanwick said Wednesday that DiMaggio's sister, Lora, saw the bullet wounds. An autopsy is expected Friday. Anderson's postings started Monday night, hours after her father requested that the family be allowed to grieve and heal in private. Brett Anderson didn't respond to a text message seeking comment about his daughter's postings, which continued into Tuesday evening.

Police have said little about their investigation. Jan Caldwell, a spokeswoman for the San Diego County

delete some of the postings, MacNabb said.

"He said she was going to, but I don't know if she will," she said. Anderson declined interview requests from news organizations that posted to her account. She was kidnapped Aug. 4 by DiMaggio, her father's best friend. DiMaggio had invited the children and their mother, Christina Anderson, 44, to his house. "He told us he was losing his house because of money issues so we went up there one last time to support him, and to have fun riding go karts up there but he tricked us," Anderson wrote.

Anderson said DiMaggio tied up her mother and

Anderson said she was too frightened to ask for help when four horseback riders encountered the pair in the remote wilderness Wednesday. The riders reported the sightings to police the next day after returning home and learning about the massive search spanning much of the western United States and parts of Canada and Mexico. "I had to act calm I didn't want them to get hurt. I was scared that he would kill them," she wrote. Asked if she would have preferred to see DiMaggio get a lifetime prison sentence instead of being killed by FBI agents, she said, "He deserved what he got." □

Q&A ON THE NEWS

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Q: In a recent Q-and-A on the News, you answered that on Trayvon Martin's second suspension from school for defacing lockers with a marker it was revealed he had a book bag with 12 pieces of jewelry, a watch and a "burglary tool," according to a police report. My questions are what kind of burglary tool did he have? Was this a tool to break into houses? What about the 12 pieces of jewelry? Where did they come from? Was the jewelry from houses in George Zimmerman's neighborhood or another neighborhood Martin visited? Are the police investigating this further?

-- Al Cooper, Atlanta

A: The burglary tool was reported to be a screwdriver and the jewelry included a watch, diamond earrings and silver wedding bands. Martin told police in October 2011 that the jewelry belonged to a friend, but he didn't name the friend. Martin wasn't suspended from school because he had the jewelry, but because he had been seen on camera writing obscene graffiti on school property, the Miami Herald reported. Miami-Dade police were reported to be investigating where the jewelry came from, but it didn't match any items that had been reported stolen at that time, and "no evidence ever surfaced that the jewelry was stolen," the Herald reported in March 2012.

Q: I was curious if there has ever been a grand prize winner for Decades of Dollars. I checked the last three months and there have been no winners since May 6.

-- Kathy Koning, Cumming, Ga.

A: Seven people -- including three in Georgia -- have won \$250,000 a year for 30 years as the grand prize winner in the Decades of Dollars game, Tandi Reddick, the communications director for Georgia Lottery, told Q-and-A on the News in an email. The last grand prize winner was McDonough, Ga.'s Borom Toek, who won on May 3, 2012. Winners also can opt for a \$4 million one-time payout. More than 500 Georgia Lottery players have won the game's \$10,000 second-place prize and more than 3.9 million Georgia Lottery players have won more than \$19.5 million in Decades of Dollars prizes, ranging from \$2 to \$10,000. Decades of Dollars is played in Georgia, Virginia, Kentucky and Arkansas.

Q: In the recent rescue of 105 sexually exploited children, was anyone arrested who was seeking sex with these children, along with the pimps?

-- Frank Burnette, Decatur, Ga.

A: More than 150 "pimps and other individuals" were arrested when the FBI and local, state and other federal agencies carried out a 76-city sweep as part of an effort that is called "Operation Cross Country." It is part of the FBI's Innocence Lost initiative that was established in 2003 and has led to more than 2,700 children being recovered "from the streets," according to the FBI. There have been 1,350 convictions, including 10 life terms, and \$3.1 million in assets has been seized.

Q: My question is about the memorial for one of Michelle Obama's relatives that is in Rex, Ga. To my knowledge, it's gone. What happened to it?

-- Cheryl Holmes, Rex, Ga.

A: The monument to Melvinia Shields, the first lady's great-great-great-grandmother, has been removed for repairs after it was knocked off its pedestal in June, Clayton County Commissioner Sonna Singleton told Q-and-A on the News in an email. The monument is expected to be returned in September, she wrote. □

Jesse Jackson Jr. sentenced to 30 months in prison

ASHLEY SOUTHALL

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WASHINGTON - Jesse

Jackson Jr., the former U.S. representative from Illinois, was sentenced Wednesday to 30 months in prison plus three years of supervised release, following his guilty plea in February to one count of felony wire and mail fraud in connection with his use of \$750,000 in campaign money.

Since 2007, Jackson had used the money to pay for living expenses, vacations and luxury items like two stuffed elk heads and a Rolex watch.

His wife, Sandra Jackson, was sentenced to one year in prison and one year of supervised release. She had pleaded guilty to omitting \$600,000 in income from the couple's tax returns during the time Jackson was misusing his campaign money.

The sentencing Wednesday capped a slow downfall for Jesse Jackson, a high-profile politician from a storied political family.

Jackson, with the help of his father, the Rev. Jesse L. Jackson Sr., was elected

to Congress in 1995 at the age of 30 from a district that includes part of the

working on issues related to health care and education for the poor.

with a woman from Washington, and there were also allegations that he

elected president.

After the 2008 arrest of Gov. Rod Blagojevich, who was later convicted on 18 counts of corruption, federal investigators uncovered evidence suggesting that Jackson had instructed a fundraiser to offer to make a contribution to Blagojevich's campaign in exchange for the Senate appointment.

In 2011, a House Ethics Committee investigation concluded that there was probable cause to believe that Jackson broke House rules while seeking the seat, but he was never charged with a crime and denied any wrongdoing. He has called the reported extramarital affair a personal matter, but he did not deny it.

Last summer, Jackson took a medical leave from Congress and was later treated for bipolar disorder.

Two weeks after being re-elected for a ninth time in November, he resigned, citing his health and the federal investigation into his use of campaign money. □



Former Rep. Jesse Jackson Jr. (D-Ill.), who pled guilty to wire and mail fraud charges, arrives with his wife, Sandra, at the United States District Court for the District of Columbia in Washington, Aug. 14, 2013. The couple faces sentencing on Wednesday for the misuse of campaign money.

(Christopher Gregory/The New York Times)

South Side of Chicago. He became one of the most prominent young black politicians in the country,

But his reputation was damaged in recent years after revelations that he had an extramarital affair

might have been involved in a scheme to buy Barack Obama's vacant Senate seat after Obama was

Court challenge fails to stop CA gay marriages

PAUL ELIAS

Associated Press

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) —

The California Supreme Court refused Wednesday to halt gay marriages in the state, leaving opponents of same-sex weddings few — if any — legal options to stop the unions.

The brief, unanimous ruling tossed out a legal challenge by ban supporters without addressing their legal arguments in support of Proposition 8, a ballot measure passed by voter in 2008 that banned gay marriage. Prop 8 representatives didn't immediately return phone calls seeking comment, and it was unclear if they might try to take their legal challenge back to federal court.

Supporters of gay marriage were girding for a continued fight. "By now, I suppose we know better

than to predict that Prop 8 proponents will actually give up their fight," San Francisco City Attorney Dennis Herrera said. "But it's certainly fair to say that their remaining legal options are increasingly absurd." The state high court ruling came about two months after the U.S. Supreme Court refused to consider the issue, leaving in place a lower-court ruling that struck down the ballot measure as unconstitutional. On June 28, Gov. Jerry Brown ordered county clerks to begin issuing marriage licenses to same-sex couples. Prop 8 supporters filed an emergency petition with the state Supreme Court arguing that the federal lawsuit at issue applied only to the two couple who filed it and to Alameda and Los Angeles, where they live. □

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JPMorgan ex-workers charged in 'London Whale' loss

Continued from Front

"This was not a 'tempest in a teapot,' but rather a perfect storm of individual misconduct and inadequate internal controls," Bharara said at a news conference — a jab at JPMorgan CEO Jamie Dimon, who once dismissed the controversy around the trading loss with that flip phrase.

The "London Whale" controversy has burdened the bank for months, but the new charges shift the narrative of the tale. Iksil, whose name has long been associated with the embarrassing loss, tried to raise questions about how his colleagues were recording the trades, according to prosecutors. Prosecutors also portray bank employees as knowing exactly what they were doing, not workers simply overwhelmed by complicated systems — a defense banks have mounted for missteps in the financial crisis and its aftermath.

John Alan James, executive director of the Center for Global Governance, Reporting and Regulation at Pace University's Lubin School of Business in New York, called the case a milestone.

"They're shaking a big stick at the biggest bank in America," he said.

Lawyers for Grout and Martin-Artajo, both based in London when they worked at JPMorgan, did not return calls for comment. Martin-Artajo is a citizen of Spain and Grout is a citizen of France, which could potentially complicate the prosecution.

Bharara said his office had contacted the two men's lawyers. "We are hopeful they will do the right thing and present themselves in

the United States," he said. Mitchell Epner, a former federal prosecutor who is a criminal defense attorney at Wilk Auslander in New York, said Martin-Artajo and Grout might try to mount a defense by placing the blame on their superiors.

"It would be a full and complete defense here that these people were transparent" to superiors who determined what the bank said publicly, Epner said.

Martin-Artajo supervised JPMorgan's trading strategy in London, and Grout, his subordinate, was in charge of recording the value of the investments each day.

They were charged criminally with conspiracy to falsify books and records, commit wire fraud and falsify Securities and Exchange Commission filings. They also were charged separately in an SEC civil complaint.

The charges focus on an investment portfolio whose components were sup-

posed to be marked at their market value each day as best as the bankers could approximate. The charges say that from March to May 2012, following Martin-Artajo's direction, Grout began

using prices for the portfolio "deliberately chosen to minimize losses rather than represent fair value," the SEC said.

Iksil, uncomfortable with Martin-Artajo's instructions,

asked Grout to keep a spreadsheet to track the difference between the manipulated prices and the actual prices, according to the Justice Department's charges. □



A man walks into a JP Morgan Chase & Co. building in New York's financial district. Two former JPMorgan Chase & Co. traders falsified bank records to try to cover up trading losses, prosecutors said Wednesday in a criminal case that raises fresh questions about whether Wall Street learned its lessons from the 2008 financial crisis.

(AP Photo/Mark Lennihan)

BP sues United States over contract suspensions

STANLEY REED

© 2013 New York Times

WASHINGTON/LONDON

BP has filed suit against the U.S. government to overturn the temporary suspension of most BP entities, including its exploration arm, from federal contracts.

The suit, filed Tuesday in federal court in Texas, seeks to overturn the ban, which was imposed in November by the Environmental Protection Agency. The agency cited BP for "lack of business integrity" as demonstrated by its role in the 2010 Gulf of Mexico disaster. The ban's most significant impact is prevent-

ing BP from gaining new U.S. oil and gas leases. That suspension, for instance, is likely to be hampering the company's activities in the Gulf of Mexico, where it has been unable to bid on new leases since the ban was imposed.

BP's output in the Gulf of Mexico, a key profit center, has dropped sharply because of divestments of oil and gas fields there, as well as the moratorium on drilling that was imposed after the spill and has now been lifted. Robert W. Dudley, BP's chief executive, says that although BP has enough leases in the gulf,

not being able to participate in acreage auctions limits the company's ability to maneuver and keep pace with rivals like Royal Dutch Shell and Chevron.

"We believe that the EPA's action here is inappropriate and unjustified as a matter of law and policy, and we are pursuing our right to seek relief in federal court. At the same time, we remain open to a reasonable settlement with the EPA," BP said Tuesday.

The EPA move came after BP reached an agreement with the U.S. Department of Justice in November to plead guilty to criminal

charges and pay \$4.5 billion in penalties.

Taking the U.S. government to court appears to be part of an overall shift to a tougher approach by the oil giant, which is based in London. BP executives believe the company has already paid a very stiff price for the spill - in addition to the penalties paid, it has already taken \$42.4 billion in provisions - and they are frustrated that new issues keep cropping up.

BP executives appear to be concluding that their conciliatory approach has not been working as well as they had hoped. □

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US Financial Front:

Airline mergers have already led to higher fares

SCOTT MAYEROWITZ

AP Airlines Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — The U.S. government is trying to put a stop to rising airfares and fees by blocking the latest airline merger — but for fliers, it's already too late.

The past decade has seen the largest transformation of the airline industry in a generation. Prior to 2005, there were nine major U.S. airlines. Today, just five.

The merger of American Airlines and US Airways would bring that number down to four. But Tuesday, the Department of Justice moved to block the deal, saying it would cost consumers hundreds of millions of dollars a year in higher fares and extra fees.

But even before this, the cost of flying had gone up for consumers as the industry consolidated. The average cost of a roundtrip domestic ticket — including baggage and reservation change fees — grew to \$378.62 last year, up from \$351.48 in 2008, when adjusted for inflation.

The American-US Airways merger would create the world's biggest airline and help propel American out of bankruptcy court protection. For smaller US Airways, the deal represents a chance to be a significant player in global aviation and to better compete with the larger airlines that now dominate the market. The airline industry has been searching for stability ever since the government stopped regulating routes and prices in 1978. Companies that once had profitable monopolies suddenly faced startups that undercut their fares. Since deregulation, 195 airlines — small and large — have

filed for bankruptcy. Some emerged stronger. Some stopped flying. Others survived only through mergers.

While deregulation created havoc for the airlines' bottom line, it did open up flying to the masses. Air travel used to be only for the rich. In 1979 — the first year after deregulation — a roundtrip domestic ticket cost \$590.49, when adjusted for inflation. As new airlines started flying, prices

fell dramatically. Mergers have reversed that trend.

The latest round of consolidation started in 2005, when America West bought US Airways out of bankruptcy, taking its name.

Then Delta and Northwest merged in 2008, followed by United and Continental, and Southwest and AirTran. All of those easily won the blessing of antitrust regulators — the first two under President George W. Bush, the second pair under Pres-

ident Barack Obama.

Andy Brennan, an analyst with IBISWorld, said the government approved those deals to save the then-struggling industry. Now that the airlines' health has improved, regulators are more concerned about airfares.

"While there's still a bit of turmoil and volatility in the economy, it's much more stable than it was only a few years ago," Brennan said.

The number of players in the European industry has shrunk as well, with the mergers of Air France and KLM, British Airways and Iberia, and Lufthansa with Swiss and Austrian.

Consolidation has made the airlines more stable, provided job security for thousands of employees and rewarded Wall Street investors.

Business travelers have benefited from more flight options and easier connections. But families looking to go on vacation face higher fares and fewer airlines to choose from.

"It's too late. It's already a very consolidated industry," said Savanthy Syth, an airline analyst with Raymond James. "I don't know if you want to stop an industry from being profitable."

In seeking to stop the American-US Airways deal, the government contends that airlines already follow each other's moves in setting prices and adding new fees. They even bully each other out of offering sales. □



An American Airlines plane and a US Airways plane are parked at Washington's Ronald Reagan National Airport in Washington. The government is putting its foot down on rising airfares and fees by blocking the merger of American and US Airways - but for fliers, it's already too late.

(AP Photo/Susan Walsh)

Official: US agency ignoring fraud victims

EMILY PETTUS

Associated Press

JACKSON, Mississippi (AP)

— The U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission has failed to distribute \$100 million to 39,000 investors across America who lost money because of fraud by a financial firm, a Mississippi official said Wednesday.

Mississippi Secretary of State Delbert Hosemann said Wednesday that the U.S. agency has ignored re-

peated inquiries about the money.

"There is no reasonable excuse for this," Hosemann said at a news conference. Morgan Keegan & Co. and Morgan Asset Management, both based in Memphis, Tennessee, agreed in June 2011 to pay \$200 million to settle civil fraud charges that it overstated the value of mortgage investments in 2007, as the housing market was collapsing. Regulators said the

firms lured investors with false sales materials for five funds that lost an estimated \$1.5 billion.

Under the settlement, half the money was to be distributed to the victims by the 50 U.S. states and the other half by the SEC. Hosemann said all 50 states distributed \$100 million to victims in 2012, but the other \$100 million remains in a fund at the federal agency. The SEC did not immediately respond to an Asso-

ciated Press email seeking response to Hosemann's comments.

Hosemann's brief says the SEC has given itself several extensions of time to consider how to handle distribution of the money from the Morgan Keegan settlement. The most recent extension came July 22, when the SEC gave itself another 30 days. That time has not expired. As secretary of state, Hosemann regulates the sale of securities. □



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Israelis, Palestinians kick off long-stalled peace talks

JOSEF FEDERMAN

Associated Press

JERUSALEM (AP) —

With tensions high and expectations low, Israeli and Palestinian negotiators kicked off their first substantive round of peace talks in nearly five years, huddling together at an undisclosed location Wednesday in search of an end to decades of conflict.

The meeting was cloaked in secrecy, an attempt by both sides to prevent leaks to the media and main-

in the Hamas-ruled Gaza Strip underscored the tough road ahead.

"We are committed to making the effort, for the sake of Israel and for Israel's values," Israel's chief negotiator, Tzipi Livni, told Channel 10 TV before the talks began. "It will be complicated and complex, but I am not giving up."

Late Wednesday, both sides confirmed the meeting had ended after several hours. A Palestinian official said they had agreed

terms of establishing a Palestinian state alongside Israel.

Negotiations broke down in late 2008 and have remained stalled, in large part because of Israeli settlement construction on occupied land claimed by the Palestinians for a future state. The Palestinians seek to establish an independent state in the West Bank, east Jerusalem and the Gaza Strip, territories captured by Israel in 1967. They see Israel's contin-

min Netanyahu refused to make any commitments, saying all disputes should be resolved through negotiations.

The Palestinians have voiced great skepticism about dealing with Netanyahu, who takes tougher positions than his predecessor, Ehud Olmert.

While unable to secure a halt in settlement construction, Kerry has promised the Palestinians that Israel will show restraint. The Palestinians also say that Kerry has assured them that the 1967 borders will be the basis of discussions, even if Israel refuses to say so publicly. To entice the Palestinians back to the table, Israel released 26 prisoners hours before the talks began, including many who had been convicted in deadly attacks on Israelis. They were the first of a total 104 long-serving prisoners that Israel is expected to release as negotiations progress over the next nine months.

Kerry's envoy, former U.S. Ambassador Martin Indyk, was in the region to mediate. Officials say that Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas agreed to return to negotiations to avoid being blamed for failure. But expectations remain low. Israel's announcements in recent days of plans to build more than 3,000 settler homes in the West Bank and east Jerusalem have only fueled the Palestinian mistrust.

"The talks might collapse any time because of the Israeli practices," Yasser Abed Rabbo, an adviser to Abbas, told Voice of Palestine radio.

Wednesday's meeting came after a preliminary gathering in Washington two weeks ago.

Abed Rabbo said the talks

were to tackle borders and security arrangements first. Previous negotiations, in 2000 and in 2007-2008, broke down before the sides got to the explosive issues of dividing Jerusalem and resettling millions of Palestinian refugees and their descendants.

The civil war in neighboring Syria to Israel's north, strife in Egypt to the south and Hamas' control of Gaza have all heightened Netanyahu's concerns about his country's security.

Israeli hard-liners fear the West Bank, where Abbas leads a limited self-rule government, could follow the path of Gaza if Israel withdraws from the area. Israel unilaterally pulled out of Gaza in 2005, and two years later, Hamas militants overran the territory, seizing control from Abbas' forces. Since then, Gaza militants have frequently launched rockets into Israel. Hamas rejects Israel's right to exist and opposes Abbas' peace efforts.

Overnight Wednesday, Israeli aircraft attacked what the army said was rocket-launching equipment in Gaza. The army said the airstrike was in response to rocket fire several hours earlier. There were no injuries on either side.

Deputy Defense Minister Danny Danon of the ruling Likud party argued that Israelis today would not accept the proposal made by Olmert five years ago.

Olmert has said he offered the Palestinians roughly 94 percent of the West Bank, with the equivalent of 6 percent of the land coming from Israeli territory in a "land swap" to allow Israel to keep some West Bank settlements. Olmert also proposed international administration of east Jerusalem. □



U.S. Secretary of State John Kerry speaks with Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu of Israel in Jerusalem. Kerry shuffled between Palestinian and Israeli officials for weeks aiming at restarting peace talks. Israeli and Palestinian negotiators kicked off their first substantive round of talks in nearly five years, huddling together at an undisclosed location Wednesday in search of an end to decades of conflict.
(Jacquelyn Martin/Pool via The New York Times)

tain trust. Officials would say only that the talks took place in Jerusalem, and there was no immediate comment from either side. The Israeli government released a brief video showing the chief negotiators shaking hands as the talks continued into the evening.

Ahead of the meeting, there already were signs of trouble. A new Israeli push to build hundreds of new homes in Jewish settlements and fresh fighting

to meet weekly, alternating between Jerusalem and the West Bank town of Jericho. The official spoke on condition of anonymity because of the sides' commitment to maintain secrecy. No further details were immediately available.

The negotiations came after months of mediation by U.S. Secretary of State John Kerry, who has made six trips to the region since taking office early this year. It was the third attempt since 2000 to agree on the

ued construction of settlements, now home to more than 500,000 Israelis, as undermining hopes of dividing the land between two states, a view that is overwhelmingly shared by the international community. The Palestinians had demanded a halt in settlement construction and an Israeli pledge to accept its pre-1967 lines as the basis for a final border. Those lines had been a reference point in past talks.

Israeli Prime Minister Benja-

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Indian official: all 18 on submarine feared dead

ASHOK SHARMA
Associated Press

NEW DELHI (AP) — All 18 sailors aboard an Indian submarine hit Wednesday by twin explosions and an intense fire are feared dead, a naval official said. The submarine had also been damaged in a deadly explosion in 2010 and had only recently returned to service. The official, speaking on condition of anonymity because divers had yet to recover any bodies, said the navy believed there was no way anyone could have survived the intensity of the blasts and fire, which occurred when the diesel-powered submarine was docked at a Mumbai navy base. Officials had earlier said that there had been no contact with the sailors since the explosions, which

lit up the sky above the base. They said navy divers had opened one of its hatches but had not yet been able to enter the submarine because it was dark and full of muddy water. "We hope for the best but we have to prepare for the worst," Admiral D.K. Joshi, the navy chief, told reporters earlier in Mumbai. The explosions in the submarine's torpedo compartment sent a huge fireball into the air and sent nearby sailors jumping into the sea in panic. It is shaping up to be another embarrassment for India's military, which has been hit with a corruption scandal as it races to modernize its forces. Defense Minister A.K. Antony said some sailors were killed but gave no other details.



India's navy chief, Admiral D.K. Joshi, left standing and Defense Minister A.K. Antony, center sitting, gesture during a press conference after an Indian navy submarine caught fire and sank after an explosion early Wednesday in Mumbai, India, Wednesday, Aug. 14, 2013.

(AP Photo/Rajanish Kakade)

"It's a loss to all of us. It's a tragedy," Antony told reporters in New Delhi before leaving for Mumbai to as-

sess the situation. Because the submarine was docked, a unit of navy watchmen was on board

when the blasts occurred and not the normal crew, Joshi said. At least some weaponry exploded in the near-simultaneous blasts, Joshi added. A video of the explosions filmed by bystanders showed an enormous ball of red and yellow fire rising hundreds of feet into the air. About a dozen fire engines rushed to the dockyard and extinguished the fire in about two hours, officials said. Navy spokesman Narendra Vispute said the cause of the explosions was being investigated. The 16-year-old Russian-made submarine, INS Sindhurakshak, was hit by an explosion in 2010 that killed one sailor and injured two others. □

Gas explosion kills 1, hurts 2 at Venezuela health club

CARACAS, Venezuela (AP) — Venezuelan authorities say a gas leak caused an explosion in a gym just after a judo competition in the mining town of Puerto Ordaz. Officials say a journalist was killed and two other people were injured. Sports Minister Alejandra Benitez says the blast occurred Monday afternoon in a stall that was selling drinks and food at the com-

petition. She blames a gas leak in the stall's kitchen. Benitez tells Venezuelan Television that journalist Ivette Rebolledo died while being taken to the hospital. The minister says one of the injured is a 12-year-old girl who was one of participating athletes. No information has been released on the other injured person. Puerto Ordaz is about 650 kilometers (400 miles) south-east of Caracas. □

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Brazil:

Protests in Rio slum over death of youth

RIO DE JANEIRO (AP) — Police officers investigating the death of a teenager clashed with residents of a Rio de Janeiro slum, police said Wednesday as Brazilians staged a series of protests on issues ranging from alleged police brutality to low wages. Rio police said in a statement that three buses

confrontation with police. Police killings are not unusual in Rio, where officers are sometimes linked to armed militias. A demonstration was called for Wednesday in another Rio slum, Rocinha, to call for light to be shed on the disappearance of a local bricklayer who was last seen in police custody.

Souza's disappearance has become a hot-button issue in Rio, particularly among slum dwellers and critics of Rio de Janeiro state Gov. Sergio Cabral. Cabral has been the target of protests since June, when a wave of mass demonstrations against government corruption and calling for improved



Protestors march and shout slogans in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, Wednesday, Aug. 14, 2013. The demonstration was organized and attended mainly by university professors protesting low wages and substandard facilities.

(AP Photo/Nicolas Tanner)

were burned and a police car damaged in Tuesday night's clash in the sprawling Penha slum. Police were called in to investigate the death of a 17-year-old boy, whose body was found in the neighborhood. The teen, whose name was not released, went missing Monday. His body showed no bullet wounds, and the cause of death was not immediately clear, police said. News reports suggested the protesters suspected the youth died in a

The protest came on the one-month anniversary of the disappearance of Amarildo de Souza, a 42-year-old father of six who was hauled into a Rocinha police station for questioning July 14. Police have said he was released shortly after, but video surveillance shows no trace of Souza after he entered the police station. His family and supporters say they suspect he was killed by police and his body dumped in a clandestine graveyard.

public services swept Brazil. Protesters allege Cabral is corrupt and want an investigation into spending on projects linked to next year's World Cup and the 2016 Olympics, which Brazil is hosting. Several thousand mostly university professors also marched through central Rio on Wednesday demanding higher pay and better working conditions, while people calling for improved legislation for the disabled staged a protest in the capital, Brasilia. □

Mexico drug cartel launches rare regional publicity push

MARK STEVENSON
Associated Press

MEXICO CITY (AP) — A group of farmers and businessmen from the western Mexico state of Michoacan demanded Wednesday that the government withdraw thousands of federal police sent in to fight a local drug cartel. While the group denied any links to the Knights Templar cartel, its news conference in Mexico City coincided with a rare public relations push by the gang, whose leader raged against federal police in a videotaped statement posted over the weekend on social media sites. Both the cartel and the group, which calls itself Peace with Dignity for Michoacan, also railed against "self-defense" groups set up by residents in several Michoacan towns to resist Knights Templar gunmen.

The self-defense groups say the cartel's gunmen subjected residents to systematic extortion demands for "protection payments." But the Peace with Dignity group said such payments were levied only on part of the population, such as big avocado plantations, and were helpful in some cases, or at least a necessary evil. "We avocado farmers were getting robbed a lot" by thieves sneaking into orchards, farmer Nicolas Aguilar said. "We were told there was a payment being collected to help with security, and since then we haven't had any more problems with theft." The group also cited a list of alleged abuses by federal police, who they said were

bothering local women and scaring away tourism, one of the main sources of revenue for the hilly, pine-clad state.

"We don't want any more federal police," said a Purepecha Indian community leader, Miguel Aguilera.

That coincides with the message from Knights Templar leader Servando "La Tuta" Gomez, who admitted to being a criminal but said his gang is defending Michoacan against the federal police, who he said are worse thieves. Gomez alleged abuses and corruption by the thousands of federal officers sent by President Enrique Pena Nieto to Michoacan in May after violence between the cartel and the self-defense groups escalated. Federal security officials did not respond to requests for comment on whether the video was authentic, or the allegations against the federal police.

It is rare for leaders of Mexico's drug cartels to speak publicly, but Gomez has posted videos of lengthy speeches at least twice in the past.

Some cartels have been known to sponsor front groups or demonstrations against police in Mexico. Misael Gonzalez, a leader of the self-defense force in the Michoacan town of Coalcoman, said he didn't know if Peace with Dignity is linked to the Knights Templar, but said that "in several towns, there have been 'narco marches' organized by the Knights Templar" to demand the withdrawal of federal police. □



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Koreas commit to reopen industrial park in the north

CHOE SANG-HUN

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SEOUL, South Korea - North and South Korea agreed Wednesday to reopen a joint industrial complex, reviving the last remaining symbol of their economic cooperation in a sign that the two sides are inching toward a thaw after a series of bellicose exchanges this year.

The breakthrough came during what the South billed as a final round of make-or-break negotiations on whether to restart or permanently shut down the Kaesong industrial zone, a factory park in the North Korean border town of the same name.

The complex had been in operation for almost a decade, unlike the other cross-border projects set up during an earlier period of rapprochement and then halted one by one as relations soured in recent years.

Kaesong's future became uncertain this year after North Korea pulled its workers out in April, blaming joint U.S.-South Korean military exercises that were being conducted at the time, and the South responded by withdrawing its factory managers.

Since last month, North and South Korea have held six rounds of talks but have been unable to agree on the terms under which they could resume operations at the complex. They could find no compromise on the important South Korean demand that the North take responsibility for the damages caused by the suspension of production and take steps to ensure that it would not shut the complex again for military or political reasons. □

Eurozone's longest-ever recession comes to an end

ALAN CLENDENNING
PAN PYLAS

Associated Press

MADRID (AP) — Minube, a travel startup on the outskirts of Madrid, is doing something that many Spanish companies haven't thought about for years: It's hiring.

The company, which sells bookings as it helps travelers share their experiences using social media, has

was confirmed in figures Wednesday, which showed that the longest-ever recession to afflict the eurozone came to an end in the second quarter of the year.

Eurostat, the European Union's statistics office, said the 17 EU countries that use the euro saw their collective economic output increase by 0.3 percent in the April to June period

cerns over Europe's debt crisis over the past year and record low interest rates from the European Central Bank.

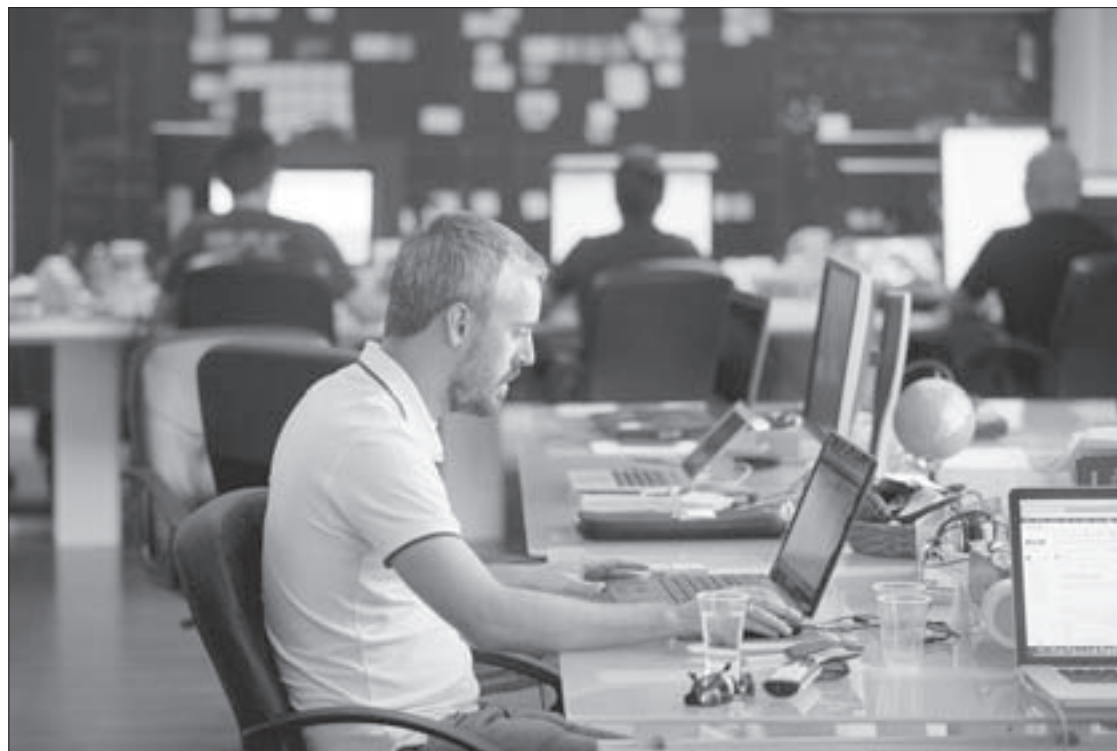
The eurozone's growth, which translates to an annualized rate of about 1.2 percent, is still well below the 1.7 percent the U.S. enjoyed during the second quarter. The wider 27-country EU, which includes non-euro countries

The EU's recovery marks the first time since a brief period in 2011 that the four major pillars of the world economy — the U.S., China, Japan and Europe — are growing at the same time.

The figures will be greeted with a sigh of relief by Europe's policymakers, who have spent nearly four years grappling with a debt crisis that has threatened the very future of the euro. But they were not ready to declare victory, aware that this is only the start of what is expected to be a slow and uneven recovery. "This slightly more positive data is welcome — but there is no room for any complacency whatsoever," Olli Rehn, the EU's top monetary official, said in his blog after the release of the figures. "I hope there will be no premature, self-congratulatory statements suggesting 'the crisis is over'." The improvement was largely due to solid growth of 0.7 percent in Germany and a surprisingly strong 0.5 percent bounce-back in France following two quarters of negative growth.

Aside from Europe's top two economies, there were signs of stabilization elsewhere, notably in Portugal, which expanded by a surprising 1.1 percent. Spain and Italy saw the pace of their economic contractions slow.

There was even evidence that the recession in Greece, the country at the heart of Europe's debt crisis, is easing, too. Eurostat doesn't publish quarterly figures for Greece. It only has annual comparisons and they showed that the year-on-year contraction eased to 4.6 percent in the second quarter from 5.6 percent in the first. □



Chris Pearrow, in charge of Business Development for the US and UK, works in the Minube company office in Madrid, Spain, Wednesday Aug. 14, 2013. In the offices of Minube, an internet travel agency startup in the outskirts of Madrid, something unusual is happening; they're hiring.
(AP Photo/Paul White)

nearly doubled its headcount from 17 at the end of last year to 30. Business is booming as customers come in from across Europe — including some places hardest hit by Europe's economic crisis.

"We're finally starting to see a bigger growth curve in Spain, and the strong growth in Italy has been a surprise," Minube's co-founder, Pedro Jareno, said. "The improvements we are starting to see in the market are constant." That brighter — or less gloomy — backdrop

from the previous quarter. That's the first quarterly growth since the eurozone slipped into recession in the last three months of 2011. The ensuing recession of six quarters was the longest since the euro currency was launched in 1999.

The improvement made up for the previous quarter's equivalent decline and was moderately better than the 0.2 percent anticipated in the markets. Growth, however anemic, had been predicted by many economists following an easing in market con-

such as Britain and Poland, also emerged from its own, milder recession, and like the eurozone is also growing at an annualized rate of around 1.2 percent.

Growth in Europe provides a boon to the global economy. The EU, which now totals 28 nations following Croatia's accession in July, has a population of around 550 million and its annual gross domestic product stands at around \$17.3 trillion — both more than the U.S., which has GDP of \$16.6 trillion for 315 million people.

Rastas talk reparations at Jamaica gathering

DAVID McFADDEN
Associated Press

KINGSTON, Jamaica (AP)

— Dozens of Rastafarians gathered in Jamaica on Wednesday to brainstorm ways of pressuring European countries to pay reparations for slavery and talk about other core beliefs of the homegrown faith.

Mostly dreadlocked and colorfully attired followers assembled in lecture halls amid a weeklong conference at the University of the West Indies campus in Jamaica, the tropical island where reggae icons like Bob Marley and Burning Spear brought Rastafari's message to the world in the 1970s.

Rastafarians have long called for slavery reparations, a key tenet of their faith along with repatriation to Africa. A melding of Old Testament teachings and Pan-Africanism, it emerged in colonial-era Jamaica in the 1930s out of anger over the oppression of blacks and evolved into a spiritual movement. Members have petitioned Queen Elizabeth II for compensation over the years. But the claims were rejected, and the monarchy said the British government could not be held accountable for wrongs in past centuries since slavery wasn't a crime when it was condoned.

About a decade ago, a coalition of Rastafarian groups estimated Euro-

pean countries formerly involved in the slave trade, especially Britain, needed to pay 72.5 billion British pounds (\$110 billion) to resettle 500,000 Rastafarians in Africa.

Now, the Caribbean Community bloc of more than a dozen nations is launching an effort to seek compensation for what they say is the lingering legacy of the Atlantic slave trade across the region. Caricom, as the organization is called, has enlisted the help of a prominent British human rights law firm and is creating a Reparations Commission to

press the issue.

The bloc is focusing on Britain on behalf of the English-speaking Caribbean, France for the slavery in Haiti and the Netherlands for Suriname, a former Dutch colony on the northeastern edge of South America.

Some Jamaican Rastas, like Lion Claw, a bearded member of the movement's Nyabingi branch, disdain all government initiatives and are skeptical of Caricom's efforts.

"What is going on now is just the same slavers trying to benefit. Tell me, who do

the governments of Caricom represent? The slaves or the slavers?" he said outside a lecture hall.

But other Rastas are more hopeful that the governments' initiative can bolster their longstanding efforts.

"It's a good thing that Caricom is seeking reparations now. We need to free up Rastafari," said Bongo Ernest, also a member of Nyabingi, whose members worship the late Ethiopian Emperor Haile Selassie and believe returning to Africa would heal humanity and complete a cycle broken by slavery. □



Rastafarians drum and chant during a weeklong conference and general assembly at the University of the West Indies in Kingston, Jamaica, Tuesday, Aug. 13, 2013. Rastafarians are gathering to brainstorm ways of pressuring European countries to pay reparations for slavery and other core beliefs of the spiritual movement.

(AP Photo/David McFadden)

Cuba's Fidel Castro: didn't expect to live to 87

PETER ORSI
Associated Press

HAVANA (AP) — Fidel Castro says he didn't expect he'd live long enough to turn 87 this week after grave illness forced him from office in 2006, according to an essay carried by official media Wednesday. In a long, wide-ranging article taking up three pages of Communist Party newspaper Granma, Castro, whose birthday was Tuesday, wrote about being stricken with a near-fatal intestinal ailment on July 26, 2006.

"As soon as I understood

that it would be definitive I did not hesitate to cease my charges as president ... and I proposed that the person designated to exercise that task proceed immediately to take it up," the retired leader said, referring to his successor and younger brother Raul Castro.

"I was far from imagining that my life would be prolonged seven more years," he added.

Castro stepped aside provisionally that year and retired permanently in 2008. He rarely appears in pub-

lic these days, though photos and video of him are released occasionally through official media.

It was Castro's first essay in more than four months. He stopped penning his semi-regular columns called "Reflections" last year, and ended a nine-month hiatus in April with a piece urging restraint amid elevated tensions on the Korean Peninsula.

In Wednesday's essay, Castro also reflected on topics such as the death in March of his friend and close ally Venezuelan President Hugo Chavez, as well

as the wonders of science.

"The sciences should teach us above all to be humble, given our congenital self-sufficiency," he said. "Thus would we be better prepared to confront and even enjoy the rare privilege of existence."

Castro also touched on key Cold War moments such as the Cuban Missile Crisis and the failed Bay of Pigs invasion, and said Soviet Premier Yuri Andropov told him in the early 1980s that Moscow would not step in if Cuba were to be invaded by its northern neighbor. □

Puerto Rico to debate new gay, gender rights

DANICA COTO
Associated Press

SAN JUAN, Puerto Rico (AP) — Religious groups gathered Wednesday in front of Puerto Rico's seaside capitol to protest proposed laws that would allow same-sex couples to adopt children and would establish a public school curriculum examining gender issues including sexual discrimination.

One of the island's largest Christian organizations, Puerto Rico Pro Family, said it would seek two constitutional amendments to limit marriage to heterosexual couples and to award parents the sole right to educate their children on gender matters.

"There are certain issues that are non-negotiable," said Dr. Cesar Vazquez Muniz, spokesman of Puerto Rico Pro Family. "The problem is that they are trying to change the values of this country."

Legislators currently are holding public hearings on the bills and are expected to debate them soon as the U.S. territory pushes for expanded gay rights amid heavy opposition from religious groups.

Sen. Maria Gonzalez Lopez, who filed both bills earlier this year, told The Associated Press that children should not be discriminated against and that prohibiting same-sex couples from adopting has economic, emotional and psychological consequences.

"It's imperative that this legislative assembly recognize and not deny existing families their rights," the bill states.

The bill was filed after the island's Supreme Court in February voted 5-4 to uphold a local law banning adoptions by same-sex parents. The decision was unsuccessfully appealed by a Puerto Rican woman who has sought for nearly a decade to adopt a 12-year-old girl whom her partner of more than 20 years gave birth to through in vitro fertilization. □



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- Maria DiCostanzo

Warmest congratulations to Maria and Robert from Aruba Today and Caribbean Speed Printers: may this memory last a lifetime! ☐

PALM BEACH – Recently, Maria DiCostanzo and Robert Petrelli of Massachusetts celebrated their dream wedding on the breathtaking coast of Aruba. To tell the story like nobody else can, beautiful bride Maria tells us in her own words of this match made in heaven, and sealed on Aruba!

"We met at Bobby's parents' house in Cape Cod Massachusetts. A mutual friend invited me to his house for the weekend because he was having a party. I walked into his backyard and saw him for the first time and first thought how handsome he was and then thought this is the man I am going to marry!"

"Bobby tells the same story and says it was love at first site. He knew he would marry me someday."

"Once we got talking, the rest was history and 6 years later he proposed. He proposed at one of our favorite restaurants in Boston. I knew he would propose at some point soon because we did look at rings a few weeks back. But nothing



prepares you for the actual moment and it was so special and magical and the ring was just beautiful. We both felt the love and felt so lucky!! We are now embarking on such an incredible journey together! It was amazing!!"

"A little over a year after that we officially sealed the deal in our recent amazing Aruba wedding."

"We picked Aruba to get married because it's both of our favorite island we've been too! How can you not LOVE Aruba!! Bobby's parents also have a time share at the Divi Aruba Phoenix

and gave been going to Aruba for years as well and love it there. We really both wanted to get married on a beautiful beach too... But mostly we got married in Aruba because we wanted to spend as many days as possible with our closest family and friends celebrating our love and wedding week with our most favorite people on one happy island!"

"It was seriously the BEST week of our lives and we feel so grateful and thankful for all our family and friends who could be there to help us celebrate. Those who couldn't make it Aruba, you were very much missed but we definitely had many Balashi Chill beers thinking about you!"

"The Wedding Ceremony was held on Eagle Beach between the Fofoti Trees on Thursday, August 8th, 2013, with the 'I Do's' taking place at 6:30pm, followed by cocktails and a fabulous reception at Aruba Surfside Marina that ended at midnight."

"Overall experience was AMAZING! There are no other words to describe it!"



Westin receives fist IBISA award from Ministry of Health & Sports

PALM BEACH – The Westin Resort & Casino, Aruba was recently honored as the first resort on the island to receive the IBISA Award, certified by Mr. Richard Visser, Aruba's minister of health and sports. In conjunction with PACO (Pan American Conference on

Obesity), a certification program constructed over the past three years was created with the objectives of raising the prestige of tourism and the tourism industry in the region, and providing economic resources for projects within the community on the pre-

vention of obesity through exercise and healthy eating. Certification for hotels and restaurants is granted on the basis of compliance with GMP (Good Manufacturing Practices), HACCP (Hazard Analysis, Critical Control Point System), and healthy food principles.

"Westin's global philosophy of healthy lifestyles and our association with SuperFoodsRx items on our menus has put Westin at the forefront in the hospitality industry as a pioneer of promoting healthy choices for our guests," explains Executive Chef Matt Boland. As part of Westin Hotels & Resorts® ongoing commitment to personal renewal, in 2007 they teamed up with SuperFoods Partners LLC, owners of the SuperFoodsRx™ brand, to become the first hotel brand to create a SuperFoods focused menu for their guests. Superfoods, known for being health enhancing and rich in antioxidants and phytonutrients, are the main ingredient in many Westin signature dishes worldwide. Westin Hotels & Resorts® also eliminates



all artificial trans-fats from food and beverage operations.

"Minister Visser's vision of carrying healthy tourism principles into our local community is also a big part of how we are educating our associates and their families," Chef Matt says. "Our human resources team organizes health and well-being seminars for our associates to provide them with the information and resources they need to make these healthy choices at home and with their family and friends in the community, and our kitchen works together with our cafeteria team to have a weekly healthy menu for our associates so they can explore and taste ingredients that maybe they have never tried before in hopes they will incorporate these nutritious—and delicious—ingredients into their meals at home," the chef adds. "Locals love dishes like nasi and bami...I like to use a 'eat this and not that' approach to show them that they don't have to give up the foods they love because even these dishes typically high in fat and calories can be made with healthier ingredients like whole wheat pasta and rice, and lots of fresh vegetables, and still satiate their desire for the comfort food they grew up with... even a pastechi can be good for you by using corn meal instead of flour, stuffing some spinach in with the cheese, and baking it instead of frying it."

Pictured here are a few of Chef Matt's healthy food

creations, including grilled mahimahi with mango papaya salsa; wilted kale and gooseberry-kumquat salad with tomato concasse; local seafood ceviche with Madame Jeanette peppers, leafy greens, and radicchio; Chinese black forbidden rice pudding with coconut, cinnamon, and mango; grilled eggplant-summer tomato stack with arugula salad



and basil pesto; and risotto of cracked wheat, wild mushrooms, cranberries, almonds, and green apples.

Westin Hotels & Resorts® indulge guests in elements of well being to transform every aspect of a guest's stay into a revitalizing experience. From the world-renowned Heavenly® Bed to delicious SuperFoodsRx™ dishes and energizing Westin WORKOUT Fitness Studio (they even have a program where guests can rent New Balance® shoes and clothing so they can pack light but stay active on vacation), each signature offering has been specially designed with a better "you" in mind. □



**Beauty
On The
Beach**

*Luz Maria
and
Andre Schueler*

These girls are visiting Aruba and staying at The Amsterdam Manor. Luz Maria de Rio is from Argentina and Andree Schueler is from America.

**The Blue
Lobster**

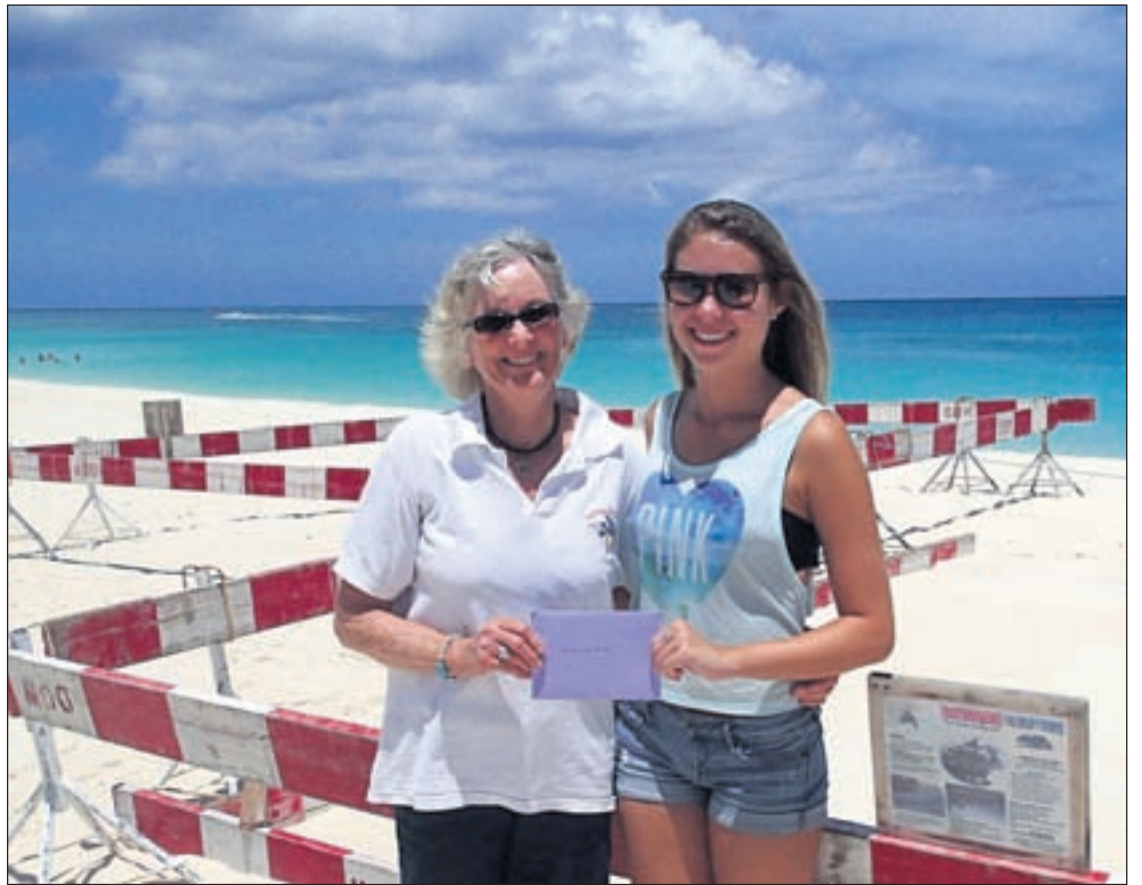
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EAGLE BEACH - Several weeks ago Turtugaruba was approached by a young woman, Sabrina Wilson-Barrett, a real sea turtle lover. She and her mom and dad are repeat guests of Aruba.

Knowing how endangered sea turtles are nowadays world-wide, she wants to support the good work of Turtugaruba. Creative as this young woman is, she made beautiful turtle bracelets during her stay on Aruba.

Last week she donated the money she raised with the sale of her bracelets. Turtugaruba is very glad with this initiative and will use the money to continue raising awareness. Thank you so much Sabrina! □

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AL Capsules

Soriano homers twice, Yanks offense breaks out

The Associated Press

NEW YORK (AP) — Alfonso Soriano homered twice and drove in a career-high six runs, Alex Rodriguez had a two-run double, and the New York Yankees' bats bailed out a wild CC Sabathia for a 14-7 rout of the Los Angeles Angels on Tuesday night.

Vernon Wells homered against his former team, and leadoff batter Eduardo Nunez drove in four runs as New York equaled its highest run total of the season. The second-worst run-producing offense in the AL won by more than three runs for the first time in 26 games.

Jason Vargas (6-5) gave up two homers in his first start since having surgery to remove a blood clot from near his left armpit on June 26, including Soriano's go-ahead two-run drive in the fifth.



New York Yankees' Alfonso Soriano watches his seventh-inning, three-run home run off Los Angeles Angels starting pitcher Joe Blanton in a baseball game, Tuesday, Aug. 13, 2013, in New York.

Continued on page 20

Associated Press



New England Patriots quarterback Tom Brady grabs his left knee after an apparent injury during a joint workout with the Tampa Bay Buccaneers at NFL football training camp, in Foxborough, Mass., Wednesday, Aug. 14, 2013.

Associated Press

HOWARD ULMAN

AP Sports Writer

FOXBOROUGH, Mass. (AP)

-- Tom Brady walked off the field under his own power. Several teammates didn't think he was hurt badly when he grabbed his left

knee after being knocked down.

Yet the possibility that the New England Patriots might lose their star quarterback caused a scare at the team's joint practice with the Tampa Bay Buc-

AP Source: Tom Brady sprains left knee

caneers on Wednesday. A person with knowledge of the injury said an MRI was negative and Brady was day-to-day with a left knee sprain. Asked if Brady might play Friday night in an exhibition game against the Buccaneers, the person said he didn't know.

The person spoke on condition of anonymity because the Patriots didn't make an announcement.

The two-time league MVP had a season-ending injury to the same knee in the 2008 opener.

Brady was injured midway through practice Wednes-

day when left tackle Nate Solder was pushed into him by Tampa Bay defensive end Adrian Clayborn. Brady, entering his 14th NFL season, fell, rocked backward on the ground and held his left knee.

He went to the sideline then returned for a few more plays before talking with coach Bill Belichick and leaving the field toward the team's indoor practice facility next to it.

"You've always got to stay away from the quarterback (in practice)," Clayborn said. "You got a guy on his heels and my instinct

is to keep going, so that's what I did." The contact came just as Brady threw a long incompleteness down the right sideline toward rookie Aaron Dobson.

"We're always working to protect," Solder said. "I'll have to see what happened on the film. I screwed some things up here and there."

In 2008, Brady tore the anterior cruciate ligament in his left knee. The Patriots missed the playoffs that season. He has played every game since then and the team reached the playoffs in all four seasons. □

No. 1 Serena Williams advances after rough set

JOE KAY

AP Sports Writer

MASON, Ohio (AP) — Serena Williams overcame what she described as one of her worst sets before beating qualifier Eugenie Bouchard of Canada 4-6, 6-2, 6-2 on Wednesday in her opening match at the Western & Southern Open. It was her first match since she won at Toronto on Sunday, equaling her career best with her eighth singles title this season. She's never done well in Cincinnati, reaching the semifinals one time.

If she doesn't play much better, she won't be around very long this time, either.

"It was just really different conditions than Toronto," she said. "And I always forget that it's so different here. So it took me a while to get used to it."

"I have to get used to them because this is a tournament I don't have on my

roster. And if I play like today, I'll continue not to have it."

Williams had 37 unforced errors in the unseasonably cool, windy conditions. Twenty-two of them came off her forehand, including one that she won't forget in that ugly first set on a center court that seems to entice her worst tennis.

"I even had the easiest approach shot and it went not slightly wide, it was like 50 feet out," she said. "That was actually embarrassing. So I thought I'd never hit a shot like that professionally. I have maybe in practice with my eyes closed, but never conscious have I hit a shot like that."

"So it was just some crazy tennis out there."

Wimbledon champion Andy Murray had an easy time in his opening match at the tournament, which he has won twice. The second-seeded Murray needed only 69 minutes to beat

Mikhail Youzhny 6-2, 6-3.

Murray, who is also the defending U.S. Open champion, was coming off a third-round loss last week in Montreal, his first action since becoming the first British male to win Wimbledon since Fred Perry in 1936. He's using the tournament in Cincinnati to get ready to defend his Open title.

"He made more mistakes than I expected," Murray said. "I just want to play as many matches as I can. It's important to get a few matches in before New York. I didn't make too many errors and hit a high percentage of first serves." His volleys were erratic, something he'll work on the rest of the week.

"I just missed a couple," he said. "Hopefully, I'll get that going as the week goes on."

Murray will play 36th-ranked Julien Benneteau in the third round.



Serena Williams hits a backhand against Eugenie Bouchard, from Canada, during a match at the Western & Southern Open tennis tournament, Wednesday, Aug. 14, 2013, in Mason, Ohio.

Associated Press

Eleventh-seeded German Tommy Haas also advanced, beating No. 46 Spaniard Marcel Granollers, 6-4, 6-1.

He earned a matchup with fifth-seeded and five-time tournament champion Roger Federer.

In the women's draw, 11th-seeded Australian Samantha Stosur reached the third round with a 6-3, 7-6

(3) win over 26th-ranked American Jamie Hampton. Sixth-seeded Italian Sara Errani struggled early against 102nd-ranked Polona Herczeg of Slovakia before winning 6-4, 5-7, 6-4. That set up a third-round matchup with 12th-seeded Italian Roberta Vinci, who pulled out a 6-4, 6-7 (3), 6-3 win over German qualifier Andrea Petkovic. □

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NL Capsules

Dodgers beat Mets 4-2 for 7th straight win

The Associated Press

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Rookie Hyun-Jin Ryu outdueled Matt Harvey, and Nick Punto and A.J. Ellis drove in two runs apiece, helping the Los Angeles Dodgers beat the New York Mets 4-2 on Tuesday night for their first seven-game winning streak in more than three years.

The Dodgers improved to 39-8 since June 22, becoming the first NL team with such a run since the New York Giants from Aug. 12-Oct. 3, 1951. Their winning streak is the franchise's longest since taking nine straight from May 9-18, 2010. Ryu (12-3) allowed one run and five hits in six innings, struck out three and walked one. He left-hander is unbeaten in seven starts since July 5, going 6-0 during his career-high winning streak. Kenley Jansen pitched the ninth to earn his 19th save in 22 chances. Punto's RBI double scored the tying and go-ahead runs in the fifth off Harvey (9-4).

Harvey gave up four runs and eight hits in six innings,



Los Angeles Dodgers starting pitcher Hyun-Jin Ryu, of South Korea, tosses the ball to first to put out New York Mets' Omar Quintanilla during the fifth inning of a baseball game, Tuesday, Aug. 13, 2013, in Los Angeles.

struck out three and walked two. He hadn't allowed an earned run in three of his previous four starts while going 2-1 with a 0.91 ERA in that stretch.

The Mets have lost eight of nine to the Dodgers.

BRAVES 3, PHILLIES 1

ATLANTA (AP) — Kris Medlen won his fourth straight start, Chris Johnson hit a two-

run home run, and Atlanta beat Philadelphia.

Medlen (10-10) appeared to be in danger of being sent to the bullpen one month ago, now his spot in the rotation appears secure. He left after walking Erik Kratz to open the eighth, getting a standing ovation after allowing one run and five hits in seven in-

nings.

Craig Kimbrel earned his 37th save.

Chase Utley had three hits for Philadelphia, including a one-out single off Kimbrel in the ninth. Kimbrel struck out Domonic Brown and ended the game on Darin Ruf's popup to first baseman Freddie Freeman.

Johnson gave Atlanta a 3-0

Associated Press

lead in the third inning with his homer off rookie Ethan Martin (1-2). Johnson leads the National League with his .337 batting average.

There was a moment of silence before the game in honor of Braves fan Ronald Lee Homer Jr. of Conyers, Ga., who died after falling 85 feet from the stadium to a parking lot during Monday night's game.

CARDINALS 4, PIRATES 3, 14 innings

ST. LOUIS (AP) — Adron Chambers singled home the winning run in the 14th inning as St. Louis outlasted Pittsburgh and cut into the Pirates' NL Central lead.

Sam Freeman (1-0) allowed a walk in a scoreless 14th for the Cardinals, who saddled the Pirates with their fourth straight loss and pulled within two games of them with a win in the 4-hour, 55-minute game.

Pittsburgh had four hits the first time through the order against Adam Wainwright and led 3-0 after two innings on homers by Andrew McCutchen and Jordy Mercer. □

AL Capsules

Continued from page 18

Soriano singled in a run in the Yankees' four-run sixth that broke open a sloppy game, and hit a three-run shot off Joe Blanton in the seventh.

The Yankees had a season-best 19 hits.

Sabathia (10-10) allowed three runs in six-plus laborious innings to reach 10 wins for the 13th time in a 13-year career.

RED SOX 4, BLUE JAYS 2, 11 INNINGS

TORONTO (AP) — Shane Victorino hit a two-run single in the 11th inning and Boston won for the ninth time in its last 13 games at Rogers Centre.

Jarrod Saltalamacchia drew a one-out walk off Aaron Loup (4-5) and Will Middlebrooks followed with a single. Jacoby Ellsbury grounded into a fielder's choice, with Middle-

brooks forced at second and Saltalamacchia advancing to third.

Ellsbury stole second before Victorino grounded a two-run single up the middle.

Koji Uehara (3-0) worked 1 1-3 innings for the victory.

The Blue Jays tied it in the bottom of the eighth when J.P. Arencibia hit a leadoff home run.

WHITE SOX 4, TIGERS 3, 11 INNINGS

CHICAGO (AP) — Alejandro De Aza singled in the winning run with the bases loaded in the 11th inning to lift Chicago to a win over Detroit.

Avisail Garcia had two hits against his former team, drove in two runs and scored two, including the winner. The White Sox handed the AL Central leaders their fourth loss in five games.

The winning rally started when Jeremy Bonderman (2-4) walked Garcia leading off and threw high to

second after fielding Jeff Keppinger's bunt. Then he walked Tyler Flowers to load the bases.

Phil Coke came in and De Aza lined a single to right. That made a winner of Addison Reed (5-1), who worked two scoreless innings.

MARINERS 5, RAYS 4

ST. PETERSBURG, Fla. (AP) — Leadoff hitter Brad Miller homered twice to help Seattle send Tampa Bay to its sixth straight loss.

Tampa Bay also got two homers from its leadoff hitter, Ben Zobrist.

After Justin Smoak ended Chris Archer's (6-5) night with a leadoff single in the sixth, Dustin Ackley gave Seattle a 5-4 lead on a triple off Wesley Wright.

Zobrist got the Rays even at 4 on his second homer of the game, a two-run shot in the fifth against Erasmo Ramirez (4-0), who allowed four runs and seven hits in 5 1-3 innings.

Danny Farquhar pitched the ninth for his fifth save.

INDIANS 5, TWINS 2

MINNEAPOLIS (AP) — Zach McAllister won for the first time in almost three months, Ryan Raburn homered and Cleveland beat Minnesota for only its second win in the last nine games.

McAllister (5-7) bounced back and held Minnesota to one earned run and four hits in six innings. He struck out seven in his first win since May 23.

Josh Willingham homered in the second, Minnesota's 23rd straight run from a home run.

The Indians led 3-1 in the sixth when Samuel Deduno (7-6) hit Carlos Santana in the toe with a pitch. Plate umpire Adam Hamari initially ruled that Deduno's pitch didn't hit him, but awarded Santana first base after conferring with the crew. Rayburn then homered to left-center.

ASTROS 5, ATHLETICS 4

OAKLAND, Calif. (AP) — Jordan Lyles pitched seven innings for his first win in nearly two months, Brandon Barnes doubled twice and drove in two runs, and Houston beat Oakland to snap a six-game losing streak.

Juan Castro singled in the fifth to extend his hitting streak to a career-high 11 games, scored a run and added a sacrifice fly for Houston. Matt Dominguez added two hits, including one of four doubles off A's starter Bartolo Colon, who lost in his second bid to become the first pitcher in major league history to win 15 games in a season with four American League teams. Yoenis Cespedes singled, doubled and homered for Oakland, which nearly won the game on Chris Young's long foul ball that was reviewed, but missed a chance to move percentage points ahead of Texas in the AL West. □

Gay rights controversy on sideline at worlds



Russian President Vladimir Putin speaks during the Opening Ceremony for the World Athletics Championships in the Luzhniki stadium in Moscow, Russia, Saturday, Aug. 10, 2013

Associated Press

JIM HEINT
Associated Press
MOSCOW (AP)

Competitors at the world athletics championships are keeping their eyes focused on the finish line and relegating the controversy over Russia's new ban on gay "propaganda" to their peripheral vision.

The law, passed in late June, has prompted strong calls among Western activists for a boycott of the Winter Olympics, which Russia will host in Sochi early next year.

The intersection of politics and sports can be awkward, as this year's world championships demonstrates. The competition is being held at Luzhniki Stadium, the main venue used for the 1980 Moscow Olympics that the United States boycotted.

Although the athletes at the worlds won't be competing in Sochi, it's the first major sports event hosted by Russia since the law was passed. It's also seen as an informal test event for the Olympics.

Russia will also host the swimming world championships in 2015 and the World Cup in 2018, so how the law is enforced will likely be a long-standing issue for sports.

Some of the competitors in the Russian capital say athletes shouldn't be used as pawns and it should be up to their individual consciences whether to pro-

test or boycott.

"If the athletes want to do it, that's fine. If the politicians tell them to, that's different," New Zealand distance runner Zane Robertson said. "We don't do this for the politics."

But at least one finds his conscience muffled by the Russian law, which says foreigners can be jailed for up to 15 days and deported for violations.

"I can't talk about it," said American runner Nick Symmonds, noted for usually being outspoken on social issues. "You're not allowed to talk about it here. I'll get put in jail for it."

In a blog entry for Runner's World, written before arriving in Moscow and winning a silver medal in the 800 meters, Symmonds stated his support for gay rights and said, "If I am placed in a race with a Russian athlete, I will shake his hand, thank him for his country's generous hospitality, and then, after kicking his (butt) in the race, silently dedicate the win to my gay and lesbian friends back home. Upon my return, I will then continue to fight for their rights in my beloved democratic union."

Symmonds' concern about jail underlines how the law's vagueness makes it intimidating. The law's definition of "propaganda" hinges on intent. Anyone who distributes information with the "intention" of persuading minors that non-

traditional sexual relationships are "attractive" or "interesting," or even "socially equivalent to traditional relationships" could be accused of breaking the law. Russia has given contradictory signals on how the law will apply to the Olympics. Some said the law would be suspended during the games, but the Interior Ministry has said it would be enforced. International

Olympic Committee President Jacques Rogge said last week that the Russian government provided written reassurances about the law, but that more clarity was needed. FIFA has also asked for "clarification and more details."

During the Olympics, the IOC bans athletes from making political statements. At the worlds, two-

time world champion Bernard Lagat doesn't appear to have a problem with that approach, preferring to concentrate on his running instead of the controversy.

"I'm happy to answer all those questions when I get home," said Lagat, who qualified for the final of the men's 5,000. "But here I want to focus on the things I need to do." □

Bubble players take center stage at Wyndham

JOEDY McCREARY

AP Sports Writer

GREENSBORO, North Carolina (AP)—

For Padraig Harrington and the rest of the players on the bubble, the PGA Tour's postseason starts this week at the Wyndham Championship. A strong showing in the tournament that starts Thursday could propel them into the FedEx Cup playoffs. But a rough week in central North Carolina, and they can forget about the postseason.

"There is a different sort of feel to it ... and your preparation is different," Harrington said. "It's definitely a distraction in it, and yeah, maybe on Sunday if I'm right in the bubble coming down the stretch. ... Starting off as well on Thursday, you could be a little bit cautious, because you're trying not to play your way out of anything at the start."

Harrington arrived at Sedgefield County Club at No. 129 on the points list and probably needs to break the top 40 to jump into the playoff field. The top 125 qualify for The Barclays next week.

Only one bubble player played his way into the postseason at this event last year, and among the recognizable names joining Harrington outside the top 125 are Vijay Singh, David Toms and Davis Love III. □

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FRI 4:30 | 7:00 | 9:35 | 12:05
SAT 2:00 | 4:30 | 7:00 | 9:35 | 12:05
SUN & HOL 2:00 | 4:30 | 7:00 | 9:35

PLANES
DANE COOK | STACY KEACH
3D VERSION
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FRI 4:05 | 6:15 | 8:30 | 10:45
SAT 1:55 | 4:05 | 6:15 | 8:30 | 10:45
SUN & HOL 1:55 | 4:05 | 6:15 | 8:30

THE SMURFS 2
HANK AZARIA | NEIL PATRICK HARRIS
3D VERSION WITH SPANISH SUBTITLES
MON - THURS 4:05 | 6:25 | 8:50
FRI 4:05 | 6:25 | 8:50 | 11:20
SAT 1:55 | 4:05 | 6:25 | 8:50 | 11:20
SUN & HOL 1:55 | 4:05 | 6:25 | 8:50

THE WOLVERINE
HUGH JACKMAN | RILA FUKUSHIMA
WITH SPANISH SUBTITLES
MON - FRI 6:30
SAT, SUN & HOL 6:30

DESpicable ME 2
STEVE CARELL | KRISTEN WIG
MON - FRI 4:15
SUN & HOL 2:00 | 4:15

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Wie in the spotlight again as a Solheim pick

DOUG FERGUSON

AP Golf Writer

PARKER, Colorado (AP) —

Michelle Wie hasn't won a tournament in three years. She didn't come close to earning a spot on the Solheim Cup.

Being a captain's pick for the second time on the last three American teams stood out even more this year because one of the players left out won on the LPGA Tour this year.

This would seem to be a good time to do whatever she can to blend in at Colorado Golf Club.

Except for the socks.

Wie added her own touch to the U.S. uniform of a khaki skirt, red shirt and a blue cap. She showed up on the practice range with knee-high socks of red-and-white stripes capped off by a thick blue stripe with white stars.

"It's a bit patriotic," Wie said Wednesday. "I just kind of accumulate things over the year. I see things and I'm like, 'Oh, that would be great for Solheim Cup.' And I just brought them out." It's far more

important that she bring out her very best game as the Americans try to stay perfect on home soil and win back the Solheim Cup from Europe.

U.S. captain Meg Mallon met with Wie at St. Andrews after the Women's British Open to tell her she was on the team. The next thing she told Wie — after the 23-year-old from Hawaii stopped crying — was to not think of herself as a wild-card selection, but one of 12.

"It's tough being a captain's pick," Mallon said. "There's a lot of pressure that players put on themselves being a pick."

Then again, that's a big reason why she took Wie.

Few other golfers have received so much attention for winning so little. Wie first was recognized in golfing circles when she was a 12 and blasted 270-yard tee shots during a Pro-Junior event at the Sony Open alongside PGA Tour players. Scrutiny followed a short time later, and it has been relentless.

Some of it was grounded

in jealousy. Without having won a tournament, Wie still attracted the largest

in reality. Wie spent her teen years trying to play against the men — PGA

beat the women. If there is additional pressure as a captain's pick, who better to handle it? "She lives on this stage almost every day that she plays," Mallon said. "So walking into this environment is not going to affect her. I needed another player like that on the team. I had three rookies already. And like I said earlier, do I want five to six birdies a day at home sitting on the couch? So for me, that was a pretty easy decision." The hard part falls to Wie. She has a 4-3-1 record in two appearances, including a 3-0-1 mark in her debut in 2009 outside Chicago when she also was a captain's pick. Wie went 1-3 two years ago in Ireland, losing to Suzann Pettersen in singles on the 18th hole in a European victory. There is reason for skepticism when Mallon says she didn't want to leave "five or six birdies" at home on the couch. Wie has never been a great putter, and it has been several years since she was considered among the longest hitters. □



United States' Michelle Wie works on her putting during a practice round for the Solheim Cup golf tournament, Wednesday, Aug. 14, 2013, in Parker, Colo.

Associated Press

galleries and the richest endorsement contracts. Some of it was grounded

Tour events, even U.S. Open qualifying — without ever showing she could



USA goalkeeper Tim Howard reacts during the friendly soccer match against Bosnia in Sarajevo, Bosnia, on Wednesday, Aug. 14, 2013.

Associated Press

SARAJEVO, Bosnia-Herzegovina (AP) —

Jozy Altidore scored a hat trick Wednesday to lead an impressive second-half comeback by the United States, which scored all of its goals in the second half to beat Bosnia-Herzegovina 4-3 in a friendly in Sarajevo and extend its record winning streak to 12 games.

Altidore has scored in five straight games, a first for a U.S. player, and also had an assist on Eddie Johnson's

goal. It was the first time the U.S. has come back to win a game in Europe, and gives the Americans two victories over top-15 teams during their winning streak after a 4-3 victory over No. 2 Germany on June 2 that started the run.

"It feels great," Altidore said. "More than anything, as a team, we win another game. Our confidence is high." Edin Dzeko scored his second goal in the 90th minute, but it wasn't

Altidore's hat trick leads U.S. to 4-3 win vs Bosnia

enough for the 13th-ranked hosts, who lost for the first time in nine games. The U.S. winning streak, the longest currently in the world, appeared to be jeopardy after the Americans fell behind 2-0 before halftime. But Altidore set up Johnson's goal in the 55th minute, controlling a long chip shot from Michael Bradley with a slight touch of his left foot. The ball fell right at Johnson's feet and, with goalkeeper Asmir Begovic out of the net to block Altidore, Johnson neatly tapped the ball into the empty net to cut Bosnia's lead to 2-1.

Four minutes later, Altidore leveled the scores.

Fabian Johnson slalomed through a crowd of Bosnian defenders, chipping the ball to Altidore. He

took one touch and buried a left-footed shot from 16 yards that the diving Begovic had no chance to stop. It was Altidore's fifth goal in as many games, breaking the previous mark he'd shared with Johnson, William Looby, Eric Wynalda, Brian McBride and Landon Donovan.

"We came in (at halftime) and said, 'Listen we can beat this team,'" Altidore said. "We came in and said, 'We have more weapons, we're just as confident as they are. We just have to put more passes together and be more confident.' And you saw that in the second half, we created so many chances."

The Americans were awarded a free kick in the 84th minute when Edgar Castillo was tripped by

Miroslav Stevanovic. Altidore lifted the ball over the wall of Bosnians and into the back of the net. Two minutes later, he finished off the hat trick with a shot from about 8 yards out.

The win is sure to be a boost for the Americans when they resume World Cup qualifying next month. The U.S. travels to Costa Rica on Sept. 6, then returns home to face archrival Mexico four days later in Columbus, Ohio, in a game that could secure the Americans a spot in next year's World Cup in Brazil. "This team is coming together at the right time," Altidore said. "We have things to work on, but it looks like everything is coming together. The bigger picture is the World Cup and we want to be ready for that." □

Google Maps Camera-toting teams map US beaches

MELISSA NELSON-GABRIEL

Associated Press

PANAMA CITY BEACH, Florida (AP) —

Gregg Matthews fancies himself a lumbering Star Wars character of sorts as he treks along a popular Florida beach. He wears stout hiking sandals on the squishy sand and uses ski poles for balance as he shoulders a 40-pound (18-kilogram) backpack, a blue orb with 15 cameras extending over his head.

"It attracts a lot of attention," Matthews laughed about all of his gear, while trodding along Panama City Beach.

Matthews and his trekking partner, Chris Officer, are contracted through Visit Florida, the state's tourism agency, to gather images for Google Maps. All told, they have already walked more than 200 miles (320 kilometers) of Florida beachfront, each logging up to 7.5 miles (12 kilometers) a day with the camera orb. Each camera on the orb takes a shot every 2.5 seconds as they walk.

Their quest: to create panoramic views to place online of every Florida beach — similar to the internet giant's Street View — which has taken photos of everything from ordinary homes and businesses to world-famous landmarks like the Eiffel Tower and the Empire State building.

Visit Florida has partnered with Google in the effort to map all 825 miles (1,328 kilometers) of Florida's beaches. And for good reason: tourism is Florida's top industry, accounting for 91.4 million visitors last year and \$71.8 billion in spending that employed more than 1 million in the state.

The project began in late July when Matthews and Officer began walking from the Alabama-Florida border. After mapping Florida Panhandle beaches, they will hopscotch over to Florida's Atlantic coast and move south. Eventually, another camera team will take over, curling past Miami's South Beach and other hotspots aiming to



finish the project sometime in November.

Google has a similar project with mappers trekking the trails of the Grand Canyon. But the Florida project is the first large-scale beach mapping project.

The mapping teams were contracted through Visit Florida. Agency spokeswoman Kathy Torian said the project is entirely funded with public money and Visit Florida budgeted \$126,000 for a private contractor to oversee the production of images to be sent to Google.

The mappers are paid a straight fee of \$27 per mile, but no expenses, she said, with the walkers covering all of their own transportation and accommodations. The only money Google will pay is \$1,000 at the end to buy images from the state, she said.

For Matthews, \$27 a mile is worth it. And he's even shed 15 pounds (6.8 kilograms) in the first three weeks alone.

"It is enough to cover expenses but mostly it is fun and probably cheaper than a gym for me," Matthews told inquisitive sunbathers as he passed them on his Panama City Beach walk.

The project could be a boon for beach towns around Florida in their competition to draw tourists from other states and countries.

Susan Estler, vice president of marketing for the Panama City Beach Convention and Visitors Bureau, said Google's Beach View will let potential visitors see the clear turquoise waters and gleaming white sand — an enticement to any and all

to check out the scene in person.

"Certainly Panama City Beach is known for its beautiful beaches and having that available with Google is just the perfect way of presenting the beach," she said.

But Matthews said it is the people who will never set foot on a Florida beach that he thinks about the most when he is out walking.

"I enjoyed most the desolate stretches of unpopulated islands where literally all I heard for hours was waves and birds," he said. "This is a way to bring those



In this photo taken July 30, 2013, and made available by Visit Florida, Chris Officer carries a Google street view camera as he walks recording St. George Island beach in the Florida Panhandle.

Associated Press

experiences to people who for whatever reason — health, money, whatever — will never be able to get here."

Matthews and Officer have seen dolphins frolicking, sea turtles, sting

rays, even alligators. On a remote bird-sanctuary beach, a shore bird even dive-bombed the Google cameras. Already, the duo has trekked past thousands of vacationers splashing in warm Gulf waters or relaxing on powdery white beaches in such destinations as Pensacola, Destin and Panama City. "I've had a couple of people offer me a beer. Unfortunately, I don't take it because I'm kind of in the middle of a workout," Officer said.

The men trade off carrying the camera pack — usually, one will take the morning shift and the other the afternoon. Their heft includes a battery pack that provides up to six hours of power for the cameras.

Pictures, once taken, are uploaded to camera hard drives. When the photos are eventually posted — probably next spring — online viewers will be able to see panoramic images from any spot the teams walked.

"It is pretty ground breaking." □

Microsoft sets Oct. 17 release for Windows 8.1

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) —

Consumers waiting for Microsoft's revamped version of its latest Windows operating system will be able to get the software beginning Oct. 17.

The release date for Windows 8.1 is nearly a year after the debut of Windows 8, a dramatic overhaul of the operating system that has been powering most personal computers for decades.

Microsoft Corp. unveiled its plans for Windows 8.1 three months ago, but hadn't set a release date until Wednesday. At test version of Windows 8.1 that may still include some bugs has been available since late June.

Windows 8 represented Microsoft's attempt to create an operating system that



This undated image provided by Microsoft Corp., shows a Windows Store only at Best Buy.

Associated Press

works well on tablet computers, as well as on laptop and desktop machines. But the overhaul confused and frustrated many people, resulting in disappointing sales of devices running on Windows 8.

One research firm, International Data Corp., has even blamed Windows 8 for deepening the slump in PC sales as more people rely on smartphones and tablets to connect to the Internet. □

Stocks slump on Wall Street; August outlook lackluster

STEVE ROTHWELL
AP Markets Writer

NEW YORK (AP)—The stock market fell on Wednesday as a poor earnings report from Macy's cast doubt on the outlook for consumer spending, a vital component of the U.S. economy. Other department store stocks also fell after Macy's reported disappointing earnings for the second quarter and cut its forecast for the year.

The stock market's early summer rally has fizzled out after a strong July, and August is shaping up to be a lackluster month as many traders and investors take their summer breaks. The major indexes have drifted lower in the past week after climbing to all-time highs at the start of the month.

"I do feel we are going to have a slight negative bias (to stocks), at least until Labor Day," said Chris Bertelsen at Global Financial Private Capital. "We've had a pretty significant run in the market. People are taking some of the stocks that have had big runs, and are moving away from them."

Consumer discretionary stocks in the Standard & Poor's 500 index, which include clothing retailers and restaurant chains, have fallen in the past month, paring their gains for the year. Makers of consumer staples, which investors favored early in the year because of the steady earnings they offered, have also dropped in the last month.

The S&P index closed down 8.77 points, or 0.5 percent, to 1,685.39. The index has declined in six of the last eight trading days and is flat for the month. In July it jumped 5 percent.

The sell-off was broad. Technology was the only one of the 10 industry sectors that rose in the S&P 500.

The Dow Jones industrial average was down 113.35 points, or 0.7 percent, at 15,337.66, the biggest drop in six weeks. Twenty-two of the stocks in the 30-member index declined.

The Nasdaq composite fell 15.17 points, or 0.5 percent,

to 3,669.27.

Macy's, which operates its namesake stores and Bloomingdales, dropped \$2.17, or 4.5 percent, to \$46.33 after its profit fell short of analysts' estimates. Macy's blamed shoppers' reluctance to spend for a slip in sales.

Nordstrom, a rival to Macy's, fell 64 cents, or 1.1 percent, to \$59.54. The company reports its second-quarter earnings on Thursday. Sears fell 44 cents, or 1 percent, to \$41.73.

There were some bright spots for investors.

Apple rose above \$500 for the first time since January, climbing as high as \$504 during the day, before closing up \$8.93, or 1.8 percent, to \$498.50. The company's stock jumped 4.75 percent Tuesday after activist investor Carl Icahn said he thinks Apple should be doing more to revive its stock price. Icahn also said he had a large, but unspecified stake, in the company. The stock market is adjusting to the prospect of higher interest rates as the Federal Reserve contemplates easing back on its stimulus. The central bank is buying \$85 billion of bonds a month to keep long-term interest rates low and encourage borrowing and has said it may cut those purchases if it feels the

economy is strong enough. Higher interest rates would increase borrowing costs throughout the economy. In government bond trading Wednesday, the yield on the 10-year Treasury note slipped to 2.71 percent from 2.72 percent Tuesday.

The yield has risen one full percent point since May 3, when it hit its low of the year, 1.63 percent, as investors anticipate that the

Fed will step back from its bond purchases.

Big dividend payers like utilities and phone companies have been slumping since May as Treasury yields have risen. The higher bond yields diminished the appeal of rich-dividend stocks as a source of income.

Home builders have also been falling because government bond yields are used to set mortgage

rates. If mortgage rates increase sharply, it could cool demand for homes and squelch a recovery in the housing market.

PulteGroup dropped for a seventh day out of the past eight, declining 26 cents, or 1.7 percent, to \$15.11. Lennar dropped 50 cents, or 1.6 percent, to \$31.66.

Investors may also be turning their attention to European stocks at the expense of U.S. markets. □



Trader Frederick Reimer works on the floor of the New York Stock Exchange. The stock market's early summer rally has fizzled out after a strong July, and August is shaping up to be a lackluster month as many traders and investors take their summer breaks.

(AP Photo/Richard Drew)

Famed piano maker Steinway sold for \$499M

WALTHAM, Massachusetts (AP)—Steinway has been sold for about \$499 million and will again become a private company.

The company struck a deal with Paulson & Co., the investment firm founded by John Paulson, for \$40 per share. That topped an earlier \$35 per-share offer from Kohlberg & Co.

Steinway will discard its sales agreement with Kohlberg and pay a termination penalty of about \$6.7 million.

The sale price was music to the ears of investors and shares of Steinway Musical Instruments Inc. jumped nearly 6 percent in early trading.

Steinway has been in business for 160 years. Its pia-

nos have been a status symbol and a must-have luxury in concert halls for more than a century, but the company suffered during the recession. Sales have increased in the past few years, but have yet to return to their pre-recession levels. In June, the company finalized the sale of its flagship showroom in Manhattan, the legendary Steinway Hall, where Serge Rachmaninoff and Vladimir Horowitz, among other greats, once took grand pianos for a test ride. Industry watchers believe that the recovering economy, coupled with increased overseas demand from places like China, made the company more attractive to private inves-

tors. Its shares have recovered with the prospect of a sale, rising 71 percent this year.

Steinway Chairman and CEO Michael Sweeney said Paulson's offer reflects the attractive value of Steinway's heritage and growth potential, while also providing its shareholders with significantly better returns. Paulson does not have a specific clause that would allow the company to seek other bids, but Steinway can respond to unsolicited offers. It would, however, be required to pay about \$13.4 million to break off the sales agreement.

The deal is expected to close in late September. Steinway, which will become private, valued the

sale at about \$512 million. Paulson will open a tender offer for company shares within the next five days.

Steinway & Sons was founded in 1853 by German immigrant Henry Engelhard Steinway in a Manhattan loft. Steinway was a master cabinet maker who built his first piano in the kitchen of his home in Germany, according to the company. During the ensuing three decades, Steinway and his sons developed the modern piano. The company's products now include Bach Stradivarius trumpets, Selmer Paris saxophones, C.G. Conn French horns, Leblanc clarinets, King trombones, Ludwig snare drums and Steinway & Sons pianos. □

US wholesale prices for July remain same

MARTIN CRUTSINGER
AP Economics Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) — Falling energy prices kept a lid on U.S. wholesale inflation in July after a jump in gasoline boosted prices in June. The Labor Department reported Wednesday that wholesale prices showed no change last month compared with June, when they rose 0.8 percent.

That was the most in nine months.

Energy costs fell 0.2 percent, after June's 2.9 percent surge. Gasoline prices dropped 0.8 percent, and natural gas costs slid 3.9 percent.

Excluding volatile food and energy costs, so-called core prices rose just 0.2 percent. Core wholesale prices are up 1.2 percent over the past 12 months, the smallest one-year increase since November 2010.

Tame inflation has helped consumers increase spending this year despite slow income growth and higher taxes.

Aside from sharp swings in gas prices, consumer and wholesale inflation has barely increased in the past year.

Overall wholesale prices rose 2.1 percent in July compared with the previous July.

For July, drug prices rose 1 percent, the largest gain since a 2.5 percent rise in January. Drug companies have been introducing price increases in January and July of each year. Food costs were flat in July as a jump in pork prices was offset by a decline in the cost of fresh vegetables.

On Thursday, the government will report on consumer prices for July, and economists estimate that overall and core prices rose just 0.2 percent.

For the 12 months ending in June, overall consumer prices rose 1.8 percent and core prices 1.6 percent. Those levels are below the Federal Reserve's 2 percent target for inflation. □

Macy's sales slip, says shoppers wary of spending

ANNE D'INNOCENZIO

AP Retail Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — Macy's Inc. reported a disappointing profit for its second quarter and cut its outlook for the year on Wednesday.

The department store chain blamed shoppers' reluctance to spend for a rare slip in sales.

Its shares fell nearly 5 percent in regular trading. Over the past year, its stock is up almost 27 percent.

The second-quarter weakness raises worries about consumer spending, an important part of the economy, and how other merchants fared during the spring and early summer.

Macy's, the first of the major retailers to report second-quarter results, has been a standout among its peers throughout the economic recovery. It's a barometer of spending among middle- to upper-income shoppers.

Wal-Mart Stores Inc., Kohl's Corp. and Nordstrom Inc. are among the major retailers scheduled to report later this week.

Like other retailers, the Cincinnati-based operator of Macy's and Blooming-



Pedestrians pass the Macy's department store, in New York. Macy's Inc. reported poor quarterly earnings on Wednesday, Aug. 14, 2013.

(AP Photo/Frank Franklin II)

dale's is grappling with a yo-yo economic recovery that's making people careful about their purchases heading into the heart of the key back-to-school selling period.

While jobs are easier to get and the turnaround in the housing market is showing promise, the improvements

haven't been enough to get most Americans to spend more. Most are juggling tepid wage gains with higher costs of living. On top of that, Americans are still trying to digest higher payroll taxes that went into effect Jan. 1.

"We believe that much of our weakness is due to the

health of the consumer and to the fact that consumers seem to be choosing to make purchases in non-department store categories such as cars, housing and home improvement," Karen Hoguet, Macy's chief financial officer, said during a conference call with investors. □

Deere 3Q tops views, but 4Q worries investors

MOLINE, Illinois (AP) —

Deere & Co.'s third-quarter net income rose 27 percent and easily beat most expectations as it benefited from the farm boom in North and South America. However, it said that fourth-quarter equipment sales would fall 5 percent compared with a year earlier. The company said last year's fourth quarter brought "particularly strong" sales in part because factories were running quickly to catch up with customer orders.

The lower agriculture sales prediction "does not indicate any change in our outlook for demand or global ag fundamentals," Susan Karlix, Deere's manager for investor communications, said on a conference call.

Deere shares fell \$1.54, or 1.8 percent, to \$82.37 in

midday trading.

The farm and construction equipment manufacturer earned \$997 million, or \$2.54 per share, well ahead

expectations of analysts polled by FactSet.

The company last year booked earnings of \$788 million, or \$1.98 per share.



Derek Long uses a John Deere tractor to disk and cultivate a field in preparation for planting corn in Loami, Ill. John Deere & Co. reported mixed quarterly earnings on Wednesday, Aug. 14, 2013.

(AP Photo/Seth Perlman)

of the \$2.17 per share that Wall Street was looking for. Revenue climbed 4 percent to \$10.01 billion, the company said Wednesday, also topping most

For the three months ended July 31, worldwide equipment sales increased 4 percent on higher prices. Equipment sales rose 4 percent in the U.S. and Cana-

da and 5 percent in other regions.

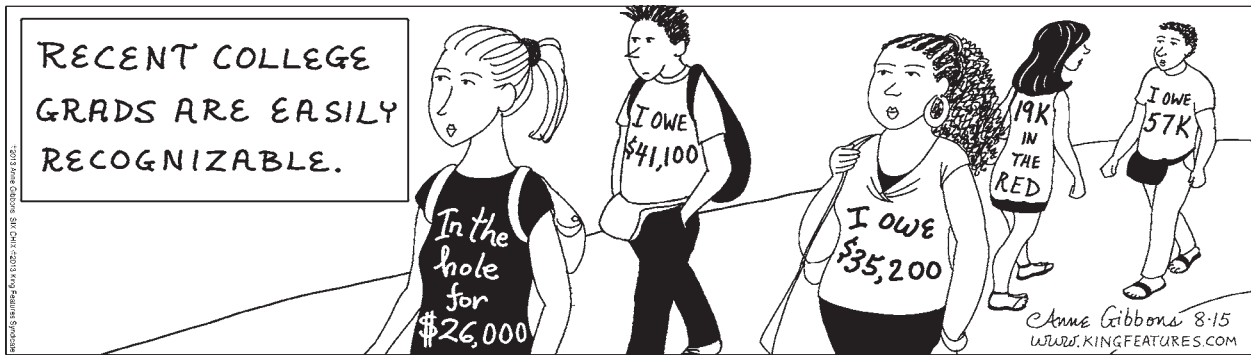
Agriculture and turf segment sales rose 8 percent on increased prices and higher shipment volumes. Construction and forestry sales fell 11 percent on lower shipment volumes.

For the fourth quarter, Deere anticipates equipment sales falling about 5 percent as it faces a tough year-ago comparison because factories were working quickly to catch up with customer orders at that time. The Moline, Illinois, company foresees full-year equipment sales rising approximately 5 percent and agriculture and turf sales increasing about 7 percent. Construction and forestry equipment sales are predicted to drop about 8 percent, mostly due to a cautious outlook on U.S. economic growth. □

Mutts



6 Chix



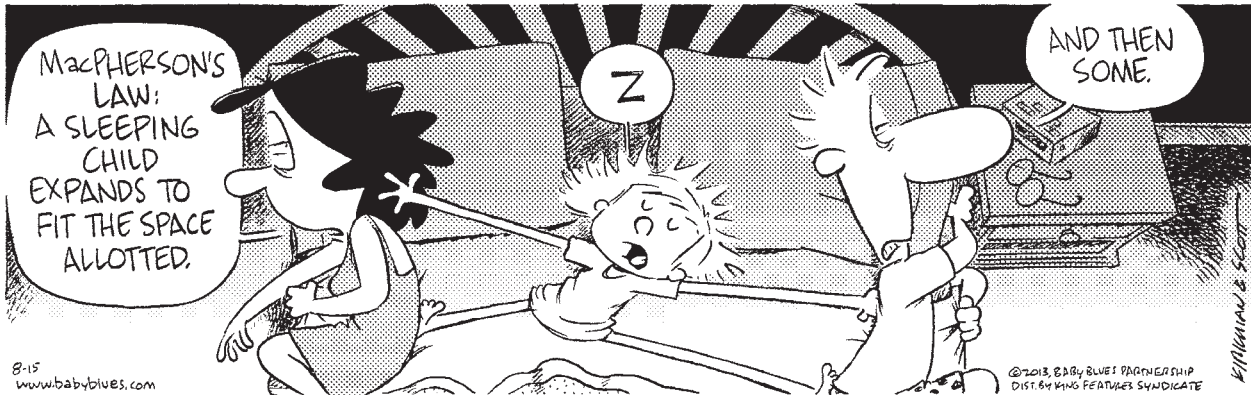
Blondie



Mother Goose & Grimm



Baby Blues



Zits



Conceptis Sudoku

			1		8			
		9		5		4		
	3						1	
6			8		1			2
	4						3	
8			7		4			9
	2						6	
		8		9		1		
			5		7			

Difficulty Level ★★

8/15

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Sunday.

Yesterday's puzzle answer

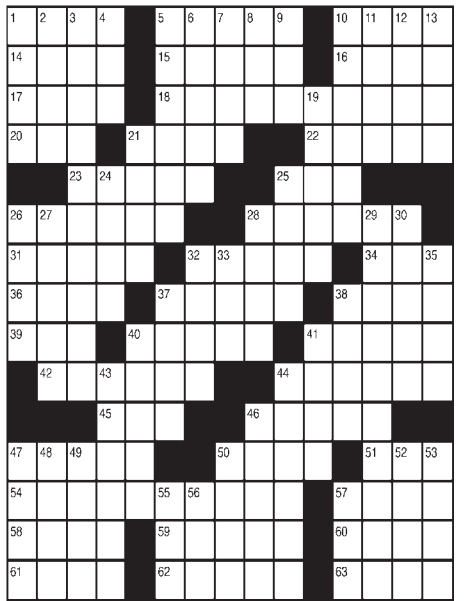
1	4	8	7	9	6	5	2	3
5	9	2	3	8	1	7	4	6
6	3	7	4	5	2	8	9	1
4	8	3	1	2	9	6	5	7
7	5	9	6	3	4	1	8	2
2	1	6	5	7	8	9	3	4
8	6	1	2	4	5	3	7	9
3	2	5	9	6	7	4	1	8
9	7	4	8	1	3	2	6	5

ACROSS

- City near Lake Tahoe
- Tortilla chip dip
- Barbecue rod
- Like garage sale items
- Mountain path
- up; relax
- Raced
- Says again
- In the __; ultimately
- Dishonest one
- "...to __, dust to dust..."
- Divulges classified info
- "Much __ About Nothing"
- East European or Asian plain
- Playground attractions
- Desert refuge
- House of snow
- Bread variety
- Compact __; CD
- Iron alloy
- Actress Gilbert
- __ the time; constantly
- Spirited horse
- Leg bone
- Solar __; the sun & planets
- Hobos
- May honoree
- Smell
- Once more
- Pantyhose problem
- Mai tai ingredient
- Write letters
- Give a pink slip to
- Actor Estrada
- Eagle's nest
- Scraps of cloth
- Adriatic and Caribbean
- Desert fruits
- Dollar bills

DOWN

- Trick



Created by Jacqueline E. Mathews

8/15/13

Wednesday's Puzzle Solved

POI	PAR	ED	LAID
INNS	ADOBE	ALSO	
NECK	NUMBS	MELT	
SHIFTLESS	AXES		
PORT	EAR		
PREPAY	FORTRESS		
HOVEL	TRITE	RIP	
ABED	TOOLS	SARA	
SEN	FINNS	POSER	
ESTEEMED	HELENS		
NEB	PIED		
PAAR	UNWILLING		
ITSA	KOALA	EYED	
TRIG	TUDOR	REAR	
SAFE	UNION	TRY	

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8/15/13

- VP Al __
- Opera solo
- Organize into categories
- Egg on
- State of clutter
- Woeful
- Tiny vegetable
- To and __

Unease at Clinton Foundation over finances, ambitions

NICHOLAS CONFESSORE
AMY CHOZICK

© 2013 New York Times

Soon after the 10th anniversary of the foundation bearing his name, Bill Clinton met with a small group of aides and two lawyers from Simpson Thacher & Bartlett. Two weeks of interviews with Clinton Foundation executives and former employees had led the lawyers to some unsettling conclusions.

The review eerily echoed criticism of Clinton's early years in the White House: For all of its successes, the Clinton Foundation had become a sprawling concern, supervised by a rotating board of old Clinton hands, vulnerable to distraction and threatened by conflicts of interest. It ran multimillion-dollar deficits for several years, despite vast amounts of money flowing in.

And concern was rising inside and outside the organization about Douglas J. Band, a one-time personal assistant to Clinton who had started a lucrative corporate consulting firm - which Clinton joined as a paid adviser - while overseeing the Clinton Global Initiative, the foundation's glitzy annual gathering of chief executives, heads of state, and celebrities.

The review set off more than a year of internal debate, and spurred an evolution in the organization that included Clinton's daughter, Chelsea, taking on a dominant new role as the family grappled with the question of whether the foundation - and its globe-spanning efforts to combat AIDS, obesity and poverty - would survive its founder.

Now those efforts are taking on new urgency. In the coming weeks, the foundation, long Clinton's domain since its formation in 2001, will become the nerve center of Hillary Rodham Clinton's increasingly busy public life.

This fall, Hillary Clinton and her staff will move into offi-

es at the foundation's new headquarters in Midtown Manhattan, occupying two floors of the Time-Life Building. Amid speculation about her 2016 plans, Hillary Clinton is adding major new initiatives on women, children, and jobs to what has been renamed the Bill, Hillary & Chelsea Clinton Foundation.

Worried that the foundation's operating revenues depend too heavily on Bill Clinton's nonstop fundraising, the three Clintons are embarking on a drive to raise an endowment of as much as \$250 million, with events already scheduled in the Hamptons and London. And after years of relying on Bruce R. Lindsey, the former White House counsel whose friendship with Bill Clinton stretches back nearly five decades, to run the organization while living part-time in Arkansas, the family has hired a New York-based chief executive with a background in management consulting.

"We're trying to institutionalize the foundation so that it will be here long after the lives of any of us," Lindsey said. "That's our challenge and that is what we are trying to address."

But the changing of the guard has aggravated long-simmering tensions within the former first family's inner circle, as the foundation tries to juggle the political and philanthropic ambitions of a former president, a potential future president, and their increasingly visible daughter.

And efforts to insulate the foundation from potential conflicts have highlighted just how difficult it can be to disentangle the Clintons' charity work from Bill Clinton's moneymaking ventures and Hillary Clinton's political future, according to interviews with more than two dozen former and current foundation employees, donors and advisers to the family. Nearly all of them declined to speak for attribution, cit-

ing their unwillingness to alienate the Clinton family. Band, who arrived at the White House in 1995 and worked his way up to become Bill Clinton's closest personal aide, standing behind the president on golf courses and the global stage, helped build the foundation's fundraising structure. He conceived of and for many years helped run the Clinton Global Initiative, the annual conference that draws hundreds of business leaders and heads of state to New York City each year and where attendees are pushed to make specific philanthropic commitments.

Today, big-name companies vie to buy sponsorships at prices of \$250,000 and up, money that has helped subsidize the foundation's annual operating costs. Last year, the foundation and two subsidiaries had revenues of more than \$214 million.

Yet the foundation's expansion has also been accompanied by financial problems. In 2007 and 2008, the foundation also found itself competing against Hillary Clinton's presidential campaign for donors amid a recession.

While much attention has focused on Hillary Clinton's emerging role within the foundation, advisers to the family say her daughter's growing involvement could prove more critical in the years ahead. After years of pursuing other career paths - including working at McKinsey & Co. and a hedge fund, Chelsea Clinton, 33, has begun to assert herself as a force within the foundation. □

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Mars food study researchers emerge from dome

JENNIFER SINCO KELLEHER
Associated Press

HONOLULU (AP) — Six researchers have spent the past four months living in a small dome on a barren Hawaii lava field at 8,000 feet (2,400 meters), trying to figure out what foods astronauts might eat on Mars and during deep-space missions.

They emerged on Tuesday with their recipes and without the space suits they were required to wear each time they ventured onto the northern slope of Mauna Loa — an active volcano that last erupted in 1984.

"It's a moment I'm going to remember for the rest of my life," said Oleg Abramov, a research space scientist at the U.S. Geological Survey Astrogeology branch in Flagstaff, Arizona. "Walking out ... experiencing the sunshine and wind on our faces."

The six researchers were selected by the University of Hawaii and Cornell University for the NASA-funded study to prepare meals from a list of dehydrated, preserved foods that are not perishable. They examined pre-prepared meals



In this April 17, 2013 photo provided by the University of Hawaii, researchers studying what meals astronauts might eat on a mission to Mars organize food inside a simulated Martian base dome on Mauna Loa, Hawaii.
Associated Press

similar to what astronauts currently eat, and concocted meals themselves in an attempt to combat malnourishment and food boredom.

Members did their cooking in a two-story dome with small sleeping quarters, an exercise room and of course, a kitchen.

Team commander Angelo Vermeulen said Tuesday the problem with ingredi-

ents that aren't perishable is they're usually highly processed and lack fiber. He said he was impressed with how freeze dried products taste very similar to fresh produce. But what is also important for future space missions is comfort food, he said. A favorite among the crew: Nutella, the chocolate-hazelnut spread. "It's something we craved," he said. "We had a limited

supply so we had to ration it." The study, dubbed Hawaii Space Exploration Analog and Simulation, included an open call for recipes that involved a lot of Spam. The canned meat, popular in Hawaii households, was a common ingredient in suggested recipes because of its shelf-life, said Kim Binsted, a UH-Manoa associate professor who is an inves-

tigator on the study but didn't live in the habitat.

The researchers prepared several dishes using Spam, including a Cajun jambalaya and a fried rice noodle dish.

She said Hawaii's temperate weather and Mauna Loa's geological features were a perfect setting for the study. The area is isolated, yet accessible, and has no visible plant or animal life. "It looks like Mars," she said. Team members will spend several days in debriefings after they emerge from the dome. They'll likely be disoriented from the experience, Binsted said, and they have requested a beach outing before returning to their regular lives. One of the first things they did when they came out of the habitat was have a buffet breakfast. "They went straight to the fruits and vegetables," Binsted said. "They seemed delighted to have fresh fruits and vegetables."

It will take several months to process all the data gathered. Binsted hopes to present findings at the International Astronautical Congress later this year in Beijing. □



Undated handout photo issued by Hampshire Police of David Hilder.

Associated Press

RAPHAEL SATTER
Associated Press

LONDON (AP) — Finger-

British cat DNA database helps convict killer

prints are not the only thing that killers can leave behind — add cat hair to that list. A British university said Wednesday that its DNA database of British felines helped convict a man of manslaughter, illustrating how the genetic material of pets can be used by crime scene investigators.

"This is the first time cat DNA has been used in a criminal trial in the U.K.," said Jon Wetton from the University of Leicester. "This could be a real boon for forensic sci-

ence, as the 10 million cats in the U.K. are unwittingly tagging the clothes and furnishings in more than a quarter of households."

Although drawing DNA from human hair, saliva, or blood samples has long been a part of crime scene investigations, animal material has also provided invaluable clues. The Veterinary Genetics Laboratory at the University of California, Davis, has used animal DNA to catch criminals for more than a decade — including one case in London in which blood left at the scene of a nightclub stabbing was matched to a murder suspect's bull terrier. In the latest case in Britain, investigators tapped the same lab to identify the cat hair discovered around the dismembered torso of David Guy, 30, who was found hidden

in a trash bag on a British beach in July 2012. Detectives matched the hair to a cat belonging to the man's friend, David Hilder, but because the genetic material was mitochondrial DNA — which can be shared among large number of animals — the strength of the match couldn't be known. That's where the cat DNA database came in. Wetton — who had previously helped to set up a similar database for dogs — worked with doctoral student Barbara Ottolini to create a repository of cat DNA for the Hilder case. They gathered samples of mitochondrial DNA from 152 felines across England over a six-week period. "Only three of the samples obtained matched the hairs from the crime scene," Wetton said, suggesting that while the

match wasn't perfect, it was still a pretty good indication the hairs on the torso came from Hilder's cat. "No one's going to be convicted on this alone, but if it's helping to reinforce other sorts of evidence then you can paint a picture in the jury's mind," Wetton said. In this case there was a host of additional evidence — including traces of Guy's blood discovered at Hilder's residence in Southsea, in southern England — and it was enough to secure the 47-year-old's conviction.

On July 30, Hilder was sentenced to life in prison with a minimum of 12 years before he is eligible for parole. Authorities said in statements after the trial that Hilder and Guy's relationship — and the motive for the latter's killing — remain unclear. □

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In this Feb. 1, 2013 file photo, actress Sandra Oh arrives at the 44th Annual NAACP Image Awards at the Shrine Auditorium in Los Angeles. Associated Press

ABC: Sandra Oh leaving 'Grey's Anatomy'

LOS ANGELES (AP) — ABC says "Grey's Anatomy" star Sandra Oh is leaving the medical drama after the coming season. Shonda Rhimes, the show's creator and executive producer, said she's grateful for what she called the actress' "brilliant" work. Rhimes said "Grey's Anatomy" will savor Oh's character of Dr. Cristina Yang in the upcoming 10th season and give her the exit she deserves. Oh's publicist didn't re-

spond Wednesday to requests for comment. ABC said it intends to keep "Grey's Anatomy" on its schedule for years to come and with as many of the original cast as possible. Others who have left the drama include Katherine Heigl and T.R. Knight. Stars Ellen Pompeo as Dr. Meredith Grey and Patrick Dempsey as Dr. Derek "McDreamy" Shepherd have been with "Grey's Anatomy" since its 2005 debut. □

Film producing new passion for 'Twilight' author

LAURI NEFF Associated Press
NEW YORK (AP) — When Stephenie Meyer's name is mentioned, most people think of her "Twilight Saga" vampire books and films. But the author wants a new audience as a film producer. Meyer produced "Austenland," starring Keri Russell and based on the novel by Meyer's friend Shannon Hale.

The film, directed by Jerusha Hess, opens in limited release Friday.

Although Meyer was a producer for "The Twilight Saga-Breaking Dawn" films and the movie adaptation of her novel "The Host," this is the first time she's produced someone else's work. She said in a recent interview that she got to be "a little bit more hands-on, a little more dirty" with producing duties. "Austenland" is a romantic comedy about a single 30-something woman (Russell) obsessed with Jane Austen novels who spends her life savings to visit a British Jane Austen theme park. "We made a lot of mistakes and we learned a lot more because we are allowed to



In this Thursday, Aug. 8, 2013 file photo, Executive Producer Stephenie Meyer, left, Director Jerusha Hess, center, and writer Shannon Hale arrive at the Los Angeles premiere for Sony Pictures Classics' "Austenland." Associated Press

make mistakes," Meyer said of her "Austenland" crew, adding that she was "surprised that it all worked out so well."

Meyer said she enjoyed the "collaboration" and "socialization" of producing and found a "different kind of creative outlet." □

Seigenthaler to host Al-Jazeera America's top news



This undated publicity image released by Al-Jazeera America shows news anchor John Seigenthaler. Seigenthaler will host Al-Jazeera America's central nightly newscast when the network goes on the air next Tuesday, Aug. 20, 2013.

Associated Press

NEW YORK (AP) — A former NBC News anchor will host Al-Jazeera America's main prime-time nightly newscast when the network goes on the air next Tuesday. The new network on Wednesday began filling in some of the details about what its schedule will look like. Over the past couple of months, it has announced the hiring of several U.S. television veterans for the launch. John Seigenthaler's

hour-long show will air at 8 p.m. Eastern time (0000 GMT). It will be followed by a magazine-style show anchored by Joie Chen called "America Tonight." Ali Velshi, like Chen a CNN alum, will host a business-oriented show, "Real Money," that will air weekdays at 7 p.m. ET (2300 GMT). Antonio Mora will host "Consider This," a talk show about current events. "Late Night News," for which no anchor has been listed, will be a second news summary that airs at 11 p.m. ET (0300 GMT), the beginning of prime time on the U.S. West Coast. At 7:30 p.m. ET (2330 GMT), the show "The Stream" is being described as a uniquely-formatted program that allows people to connect and comment on the world through social media. Al-Jazeera America announced two Sunday night shows: "Fault Lines" will investigate the impact of politics and policies on individual communities. "TechKnow" is about scientific discoveries that are changing lives.

The network will debut in more than 45 million homes to replace the old Current TV. □

McCartney added to iHeartRadio festival lineup

NEW YORK (AP) — Paul McCartney will perform at the iHeartRadio music festival in Las Vegas next month. Clear Channel said Wednesday that the former Beatle will perform on the second night of the festival, which starts Sept. 20. He joins a list of top performers including Justin Timberlake, Elton John, Katy Perry, Bruno Mars and Drake. Ryan Seacrest will host the event. Chris Brown, Maroon 5, Keith Urban, Miguel, J. Cole and fun. will also perform. The event will include a festival dubbed iHeartRadio Music Festival Village. It will feature performances from Miley Cyrus, The Wanted and Avril Lavigne. Muse, Tiesto, Phoenix,



In this May 18, 2013 file photo, Paul McCartney performs during the first U.S. concert of his "Out There!" world tour in Orlando, Fla. Associated Press

Zedd, Tim McGraw, Ke\$ha, and Queen with Adam

Lambert will also perform during the main show. □

Lewis' graphic novel tells his civil rights story

MATT MOORE
Associated Press

In telling his life story in the pages of a graphic novel, U.S. Rep. John Lewis pays homage to a comic book that propelled him into the civil rights movement and, ultimately, into Congress. The Georgia Democrat's "March: Book One," released Tuesday, was published by Top Shelf, co-written by Lewis staffer Andrew Aydin and illustrated by Eisner Award-winning artist Nate Powell. Lewis says the 128-page volume, the first in a trilogy, focuses on his early life — from raising chickens in Pike County, Alabama, to meeting the Rev. Martin Luther King Jr. and holding lunch counter sit-ins and civil rights protests in Nashville, Tennessee. A civil rights leader in the 1960s, Lewis was severely beaten while marching for voting rights in Alabama. "It's all there," Lewis said, from his "growing up" to his discovery of the 1957 comic book "Martin Luther King and the Montgomery Story." Sparked by the arrest of Rosa Parks for refusing to give up her seat on a bus to a white man, the 1955-56 Montgomery Bus Boycott, led by King, was a



This image provided by Top Shelf Comix shows the cover of "March: Book One," the first in a trilogy of graphic novels on the life of Rep. John Lewis, D-Ga. Lewis' discovery of the comic book "Martin Luther King and the Montgomery Story" proved influential to him and others as they began to struggle for civil rights.

Associated Press

seminal moment in the civil rights movement to end racial segregation in the U.S. South.

Lewis says the comic, which cost all of 10 cents, proved influential on him and others in their beginning struggles for civil rights. "It was very inspiring ... and when I attended the nonvi-

olence workshops in Nashville at a local church, we all had an opportunity to get a copy of this book we called the 'comic book,'" Lewis says. "We were able to digest the essence of the book as we studied and participated in those non-violence workshops."

Lewis is hopeful the "March" trilogy will inspire a new generation to hold similar ideals.

Powell, whose art encompasses the words written by Lewis and Aydin, said he strived to bring "balance"

to his illustrations of Lewis' story.

"A lot of this has to do with tension, anxiety, dread," Powell said. "Working but waiting is one of the major themes. There are a lot of silent moments."

Aydin called the work, his first, a chance to reaffirm Lewis' legacy and the civil rights movement for a new generation.

"I asked him 'Why don't you write a comic book?'" Aydin recalled saying to his boss in 2008, who agreed. The two worked together,

often in the evenings, trading notes and thoughts.

"So much of the story is based on the congressman's oral history," Aydin said, adding that their work felt like a "master class in comics writing."

Now, with the book's release, Aydin said the graphic novel takes on a life of its own.

"It was our job to bring it into reality. Somewhere, up in the sky, it was always there," he said. "It was just our job to pull it down and make it real." □

In pages of Marvel's 'Infinity,' Thanos a threat

MATT MOORE
Associated Press

His grim visage has caused havoc in the Marvel universe before.

Now, with Thanos' galactic-domination plans set to play out beyond the printed pages of Marvel comics, the erstwhile villain is back in the six-issue miniseries "Infinity," along with heroes from Earth and beyond.

"It's called the Marvel universe for a reason. The

stakes has never been just Earth, and no event proves that like 'Infinity,'" said Marvel Entertainment editor-in-chief Axel Alonso. "And at the root of the problem: the so-called mad titan, Thanos."

Writer Jonathan Hickman said the scale of the book, released Wednesday and illustrated by Jim Cheung, is such that it's got an event label, involving scores of plots, characters, arcs and struggles.

The series features Inhumans, Avengers, Guardians of the Galaxy and other heroes familiar to Marvel Entertainment readers.

But Thanos is swirling at the center of everything, coming off his reintroduction from "Thanos Rising," the five-issue series released this year. "The stories that Thanos has been involved in all have a certain scale and importance and weight," Hickman said. "That's what we're trying to do here." □

Reality actress Gia Allemand dies in New Orleans



CHEVEL JOHNSON
Associated Press
NEW ORLEANS (AP) — Gia

Allemand, who was the girlfriend of NBA Pelicans player Ryan Anderson and

appeared on ABC's "The Bachelor" and "Bachelor Pad," has died, her publicist said Wednesday. She was 29.

Allemand was taken Monday night to University Hospital in New Orleans after a suicide attempt, the publicist, Penelope Jean Hayes, said in a written statement. Anderson found the actress and called for help. Allemand was taken off life support Wednesday because of "a critical loss of brain and organ function, life support was withdrawn."

Hayes said Allemand died with her "mother, boyfriend and other life-long friends by her side."

In a statement provided

to the AP by Anderson, he thanked family, friends and fans for "all the love and support."

"Gia was the most beautiful person I knew inside and out and she always smiled and made everyone else around her smile," Anderson said. "She had such an amazing impact on my life and anyone that knew her was blessed. All I have left is to cherish those memories we made together and help perpetuate the many values, faith and love that we shared."

Hayes did not provide further details about how Allemand died.

Allemand, a professional ballet dancer and actress, began modeling when as

a baby she did Johnson & Johnson ads and also appeared as a Gerber baby. In addition, she did modeling work for Maxim magazine.

In her 2010 appearance on "The Bachelor," she was the third-runner up on the show featuring love interest Jake Pavelka. According to a statement from his publicist, Charmaine Blake, Pavelka offered well wishes to Allemand's family.

"We have lost an angel and a very dear friend," said Pavelka, who added that he and Allemand remained friends after the show's end.

Funeral arrangements are pending. □

How The Post Was Lost



ROSS DOUTHAT
© 2013 New York Times

Many U.S. newspapers were doomed to decline from the moment the Internet arrived on personal computers. But The Washington Post, just sold off unexpectedly to Amazon's Jeff Bezos, was never really one of them. This is something the sentimental send-offs for the Graham family and its stewardship tended to ignore.

As disruptive as the Internet has been for journalism, The Post was uniquely positioned to succeed amid the chaos.

And it has struggled, in part, because the paper's leaders failed to step into an online-era role that should have been theirs for the taking.

The nature of that role is suggested by a scene in the Thatcher-era British sitcom "Yes, Prime Minister" in which a politician explains who actually reads the British papers.

"The Daily Mirror is read by people who think they run the country," he tells his aides. "The Guardian is read by people who think they ought to run the country."

The Times is read by the people who actually do run the country. The Daily Mail is read by the wives of the people who run the country.

The Financial Times is read by people who own the country.

The Morning Star - a paper founded as a communist organ - "is read by people who think the country ought to be run by another country. And The Daily Telegraph is read by people who think it is."

Back when "Yes, Prime Minister" aired, this comic analysis didn't really fit the U.S. journalism scene. There were ideological and interest-based papers, especially in the big cities, but mostly geography rather than identity determined what newspaper you read.

With the arrival of the Internet, though, the U.S. media landscape began to look more British. Once you could read any paper from anywhere, the advantage went to properties that could brand themselves nationally, and define themselves by their audience as much as their city. In this landscape, The Wall Street Journal has a clear role as the paper of the U.S. business class, with

The Economist, The Financial Times and the Bloomberg empire as its supplements and competitors.

The New York Times fills a similar role for the intelligentsia and the liberal professional classes.

The Huffington Post is basically the nation's left-wing tabloid, and it has several right-wing rivals and imitators.

ESPN.com serves as the nation's sports page. And then various outlets, from BuzzFeed to The Atlantic, are competing to find or build a general-interest niche.

Since there aren't that many major niches, most existing newspapers were always going to be losers from this shift.

But The Washington Post was different, because even though the Grahams placed a fierce emphasis on being a local paper, the locality The Post covers is inherently national. And given that D.C.'s influence has only increased in the last 20 years, and the public's interest in national politics has surged, it would have been entirely natural for The Post to become, in the new-media dispensation, the paper of record for political coverage - the only must-read for people who run the country, who want to run it, who think they run it, etc.

Instead, it's possible to date the moment when that opportunity slipped away: It happened in 2006, when John Harris and Jim VandeHei left The Post to found Politico.

Now, there are many reasons a publication like Politico was easier to build from scratch than it would have been to create inside a traditional, cost-burdened institution.

But that's also hindsight talking: From the vantage point of 2006, VandeHei and Harris looked like gamblers, and The Post's grip on what the press critic Jack Shafer called the "political news from Washington" beat still seemed secure.

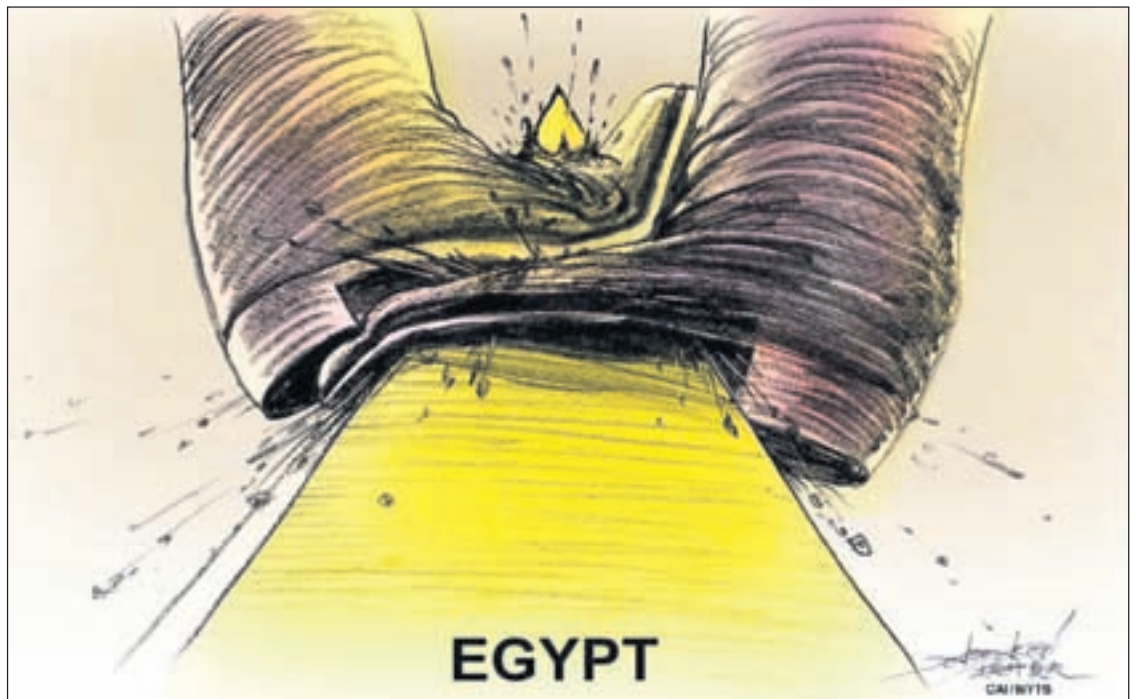
Today, though, it's Politico rather than The Post that dominates the D.C. conversation, Politico rather than The Post that's the must-read for Beltway professionals and politics junkies everywhere, and Politico rather than The Post that matches the metabolism of the Internet.

I say this as someone who doesn't particularly like the Politico style or the role it plays in our gilded capital, and who misses The Post as it was when I arrived in Washington.

But nostalgia is for columnists, not publishers: Politico has claimed a big part of the audience that The Post needed in order to thrive in the world the Internet has made. That's why I'm skeptical of the various theories about how The Post's new genius owner might invent some new way to deliver content or bundle news or otherwise achieve a profitable synergy between his newspaper and Amazon.

Maybe such a synergy exists. But it's more likely that the best thing Jeff Bezos can offer his paper is more old-fashioned: the money and resources necessary to take back territory lost to a sharp-elbowed competitor.

What Bezos can deliver, in other words, is a newspaper war, with clear and pressing stakes. For The Post to thrive again, Politico must lose. □



Kansas And Al-Qaida



THOMAS L. FRIEDMAN
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SALINA, KAN. - I've spent the last few months filming a Showtime documentary about how climate and environmental stresses helped trigger the Arab awakening. It's been a fascinating journey because it forced me to look at the Middle East through the lens of Arab environmentalists instead of politicians. When you do that, you see the problems and solutions very differently. Environmentalists always start by thinking about the health of the "commons" - the shared air, soil, forests and water - that are the basis of all life, which, if not preserved, will undermine the whole society. The notion that securing the interests of any single group - Shiite or Sunni, Christian or Muslim, secular or Islamist - over the health of the commons is nuts to them. It's as laughable as pictures of gun-toting fighters strutting on the rubble of broken buildings in Aleppo or Benghazi, claiming "victory," only to discover that they've "won" a country with eroding soil, degrading forests, scarce water, shrinking jobs - a deteriorating commons.

Our film crew came to look at the connection between the drought in Kansas and the rise in global food prices that helped to fuel the Arab uprisings. But I stumbled upon another powerful environmental insight here: the parallel between how fossil fuels are being used to power monoculture farms in the Middle West and how fossil fuels are being used to power wars to create monoculture societies in the Middle East. And why both are really unhealthy for their commons.

My teacher here was Wes Jackson, the MacArthur award win-

ner, based in Salina, where he founded The Land Institute. Jackson's philosophy is that the prairie was a diverse wilderness, with a complex ecosystem that supported all kinds of wildlife, not to mention American Indians - until the Europeans arrived, plowed it up and covered it with single-species crop farms, mostly wheat, corn, or soybeans. Jackson's goal is to restore the function of the diverse polyculture prairie ecosystem and rescue it from the single-species, annual monoculture farming, which is exhausting the soil, the source of all prairie life. "We have to stop treating soil like dirt," he says.

Jackson knows this has to be economically viable. That's why his goal is to prove that species of wheat and other grains that scientists at The Land Institute are developing can be grown as perennials with deep roots - so you would not need to regularly till the soil or plant seeds. The way to do that, he believes, is by growing mixtures of those perennial grains, which will mimic the prairie and naturally provide the nutrients and pesticides. The need for fossil-fuel-powered tractors and fertilizers would be much reduced, with the sun's energy making up the difference. That would be so much better for the soil and the climate, since most soil carbon would not be released.

Annual monocultures are much more susceptible to disease and require much more fossil fuel energy - plows, fertilizer, pesticides - to maintain. Perennial polycultures, by contrast, notes Jackson, provide species diversity, which provides chemical diversity, which provides much more natural resistance and "can substitute for the fossil fuels and chemicals that we've not evolved with."

Jackson maintains some original prairie vegetation. As we walk through it, he explains: This is nature's own "tree of life." This prairie, like a forest, "features material recycling, runs on sunlight, and does not have an epidemic that wipes it all out. You know during the Dust Bowl years of the '30s, the crops died, but the prairie survived." Then he points to

his experimental perennial grain crops: "That's the tree of knowledge." Our challenge, and it will take years, he notes, is to find a way to blend the tree of life with the tree of knowledge to develop domestic prairies that could have high-yielding fields planted once every several years, whose crops would only need harvesting and species diversity could "take care of insects, pathogens and fertility."

And that brings us back to the Middle East. Al-Qaida often says that if the Muslim world wants to restore its strength, it needs to go back to the "pure" days of Islam, when it was a monoculture unsullied by foreign influences. In fact, the "Golden Age" of the Arab/Muslim world was when it became a polyculture between the 8th and 13th centuries. Of that era, Wikipedia says, "During this period the Arab world became an intellectual center for science, philosophy, medicine and education. ..." It was "a collection of cultures, which put together, synthesized and significantly advanced the knowledge gained from the ancient Roman, Chinese, Indian, Persian, Egyptian, Greek, Byzantine and Phoenician civilizations."

What is going on in the Arab world today is a relentless push, also funded by fossil fuels, for more monocultures. It's al-Qaida trying to "purify" the Arabian Peninsula. It's Shiites and Sunnis, funded by oil money, trying to purge each other in Iraq and Syria. It's Alexandria, Egypt, once a great melting pot of Greeks, Italians, Jews, Christians, Arabs and Muslims, now a city dominated by the Muslim Brotherhood, with most non-Muslims gone. It makes these societies much less able to spark new ideas and much more susceptible to diseased conspiracy theories and extreme ideologies. To be blunt, this evolution of Arab/Muslim polycultures into monocultures is a disaster.

Pluralism, diversity and tolerance were once native plants in the Middle East - the way the polyculture prairie was in the Middle West. Neither ecosystem will be healthy without restoring its diversity. □

Regis Philbin's Talk Now Turns To Sports

RICHARD SANDOMIR

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GREENWICH, Conn. - On the expansive patio of their stone colonial-style mansion - which has a pool, tennis court, gym and wine cellar named for his idol Dean Martin - Regis Philbin

as the humorously exasperated morning tumbler of ABC's "Live!," whose co-hosts included Kathie Lee Gifford and then Kelly Ripa before he stepped down in 2011.

But on Monday he will return to daily television as

decades ago.

But the notion is not completely far-fetched. "Live!" watchers know that Philbin is a big sports fan, whose riffs would make his co-hosts' eyes roll. He is especially devoted to the Yankees and the football team

- here he banged his patio table - "every night!"

By giving Philbin his chance as a sportscaster, Fox Sports 1 is trying to differentiate itself from ESPN.

"Classic television is, 'Expect the unexpected,'" said David Hill, the found-

programs have averaged 774,000 viewers daily this year.

Rather than try to imitate those ESPN offerings, which feed on debate, the goal for "Crowd" is to be an entertainment show surrounded by sports, with invitations to celebrities like George Clooney to talk about his favorite team while pitching his latest film. "Some people are wondering why I took this job," Philbin said. "But I'm a fan." Philbin is not working solo on "Crowd." Nor is he part of a duo, as he was on "Live!" This time he has five partners.

"I can sit back and relax," he said during the interview at his house. "I killed myself all those years. Let them do it."

It will take time to find his exact role amid a group of loquacious on-air partners: Georgie Thompson, a former Sky Sports anchor from England; Trevor Pryce, a former NFL defensive end; Michael Kosta, a professional tennis player-turned-comedian; Jason Gay, a sports columnist for The Wall Street Journal; and Katie Nolan, a social-media correspondent for the show.

Michael Davies, the executive producer of "Crowd," said: "I guarantee that after three weeks, Regis will say, 'I can't get a word in edgewise.' That's natural and that's real."

How long this new experience will last is, apparently, up in the air. In his dressing room, Philbin was asked about the length of his "Crowd" contract. "Five months," he said, as a Dean Martin song played in the background. "Twenty weeks. It ends after the Super Bowl."

Davies pointed out that Philbin's tenure at "Millionaire" began with a series of short contracts.

A Fox Sports executive, Michael Bloom, contradicted Philbin's assertion. "There's no short-term contract," he said.

However long he stays, Philbin said, "I hope everybody gives us time." □



Regis Philbin, center, reaches to hug Georgie Thompson during a live taping of "Crowd Goes Wild" in New York, Aug. 9, 2013. Philbin, who turns 82 this month, is about to host the sports talk show on the new Fox Sports 1 network. From left: Jason Gay, Trevor Pryce, Philbin, Katie Nolan and Thompson.

(Karsten Moran/The New York Times)

asked his wife, Joy, "What have we been doing for the last year and a half?" Joy: "We've had breakfast and brunch. You've done a variety of things."

Regis: "Rachael Ray asked me on her show once a month. They gave me nice pay. I did 'The Talk' in Los Angeles."

Joy: "You did 'The View,' 'Charlie Rose' and Joe Scarborough. All at your convenience. Didn't you do a couple of movie cameos?"

Regis (chuckling): "Basically not much if you think about it."

Actually, it's been a fairly busy time for a guy without a regular job. But the pace has been slower than the one he kept up for 28 years

the host of an afternoon sports-talk show called "Crowd Goes Wild" on Fox Sports 1, a network from Rupert Murdoch's 21st Century Fox that has its debut on Saturday.

Murdoch has been plotting for years to tackle, or even conquer, ESPN.

"I know he has big dreams," Philbin, 81, said before adding in a voice of mock outrage, "Why the hell do I have to pay for them?"

A sports show starring Regis Philbin? He is known as a showbiz habitué, more Friars Club than clubhouse, with buddies like David Letterman, Donald J. Trump and Don Rickles, and as the second banana on Joey Bishop's late-night talk show more than four

of his alma mater, Notre Dame. Philbin's house has enough photos of him posed with university officials that you might think he is one of the Fighting Irish's former coaches - like his pal Lou Holtz.

Michael Gelman, executive producer of "Live!," called hosting a sports show an ideal career move for Philbin. "He's talked about it for years," he said. "Back in the day, I thought of producing a sports talk show with him."

Philbin recalled a brief substitution gig at a sportscasting job on a San Diego television station in the late 1950s.

"I not only gave the scores," he said, "but I gave 'em a little editorial"

ing chairman of the Fox Sports Media Group, who is a consultant to Fox Sports 1. "Regis falls into that category. This is perfect for him."

And Eric Shanks, a co-president of Fox Sports, said that Philbin's appeal could help "Crowd Goes Wild" secure any reluctant guests.

"Probably no athletes will turn Regis down for an interview," Shanks said. "If they do, once their mom finds out, he'll go on."

"Crowd" will have significant competition from ESPN in its 5 to 6 p.m. ET slot: the half-hour programs "Around the Horn" and "Pardon the Interruption," which is considered one of the best sports-talk shows on TV. Together those two